IOWA BIRD LIFE

IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION

Fall 2023 · Volume 93 · Number 4

IOWA BIRD LIFE

The Iowa Ornithologists' Union, founded in 1923, encourages interest in the identification, study, and protection of birds in Iowa and seeks to unite those who have these interests in common. Iowa Bird Life is a quarterly publication of the Union.

OFFICERS OF THE IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION (Dates indicate end of current term)**:**
President: *Tyler Harms* (2025), 1517 Stafford Avenue, Ames, IA 50010, (tyharms@gmail.com)
Vice President: *Kevin Murphy* (2025), 1015 W. 5th St., Boone, IA (kevin.murphy39@gmail.com)
Secretary: *Katie Byerly* (2024), 18569 340th St, Mason City, IA 50401 (katiebyerly.db@gmail.com)
Treasurer: *Tom Dougherty* (2024), 4516 72nd St, Urbandale, IA 50322 (tom.dougherty.sr@gmail.com)

DIRECTORS:
Wendy VanDeWalle (2024); *Anna Buckardt Thomas* (2024); *Julie Johnston* (2024); *Eric Ollie* (2025); *Diane Crookham-Johnson* (2025)

JOURNAL STAFF:
Editor: *Christopher A. Brochu,* Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, 115 Trowbridge Hall, Iowa City, IA 52242-1319 (chris_brochu@uiowa.edu)
Photo Editor: *Larry Dau,* 1644 Maple View Place, Boone, IA 50036 (lgdau9@gmail.com)
Christmas Bird Count Editor: *Christopher J. Caster,* 1813 Liberty Lane, Coralville, IA 52241 (cjcaster@q.com)
Field Reports Editors (Enter seasonal data at <www.iowabirds.org> or <eBird.org>)**:**
Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb; deadline 15 March)**:** *Francis L. Moore*, 336 Fairfield Street, Waterloo, IA 50703 (flmoore@forbin.net)
Spring (Mar, Apr, May; deadline 15 June)**:** *Connor Langan,* 1003 Willow Drive, Grundy Center, IA 50638 (clangan16@gmail.com)
Summer (Jun, Jul; deadline 15 August)**:** *Paul Skrade*, 9875 Hemlock Rd, Fayette, IA 52142 (skradepa@gmail.com)
Fall (Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov; deadline 15 December)**:** *Dean Hester,* 480 Madison Avenue, North Liberty, IA 52317 (dhester1994@gmail.com)

STANDING COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS:
Events: *Vacant*
Library/Historical: *Hank Zaletel*, 1928 6th Street, Nevada, IA 50201 (madowl@midiowa.net)
Membership: *Katie Byerly*, 18569 340th St, Mason City, IA 50401 (katiebyerly.kb@gmail.com); *Wendy VanDeWalle* (2028); *Will Bates,* Membership Coordinator (N/A)
Projects: *Wendy VanDeWalle* (2024); *Anna Buckardt Thomas* (2025) (acbuckar@mtu.edu); Susa Stonedahl (2026); *Scott Buchanan* (2027)
Publications: K*aren Viste-Sparkman*, 4640 18th Pl S, Salem, OR 97302 (vistesparrow@gmail.com) (2026); *Brian Peer* (2024); *John Bissell* (2025); *Kay Niyo* (2028); *Christopher Brochu*; *Ann Johnson*
Records: *Paul Hertzel* (Secretary, appointed by committee), 1432 E. State St., Mason City, IA 50401 (phertzel@rconnect.com); *Douglas Harr* (2023); *Matt Kenne* (2024); *John Bissell* (2025); *Francis Moore* (2026); *Betty Lucas* (2027); *Brandon Caswell* (2028)

© 2023 Iowa Ornithologists' Union (ISSN 0021-0455), All rights reserved.

Report of the Records Committee for 2022

Paul Hertzel

On 23 June 2022, Iowa's first Limpkin was photographed in Lucas County by Jay Gilliam (Gilliam 2022). By the end of the year, five more had been found and photographed in Buena Vista, Jackson, Polk and Lee Counties, documenting Iowa's involvement in the sudden expansion of the North American range of this species.

Then, on 29 November 2022, Ben Baldwin found Iowa's first Tundra Bean-Goose in Decatur County (Baldwin, 2023). The addition of these two species brings the Iowa Checklist to 433 species.

The only other changes to the Checklist occurred as a result of the North American Checklist Committee of the American Ornithological Society (AOS) choosing to reorder the wrens (Chesser et al., 2022).

At the annual meeting of the Records Committee, held 12 November 2022, the status of each of four species was updated. Based on increases in confirmed sightings, the status of both Great Black-backed Gull and California Gull changed from *Casual* to *Regular*, and the status of both Evening Grosbeak and Bullock's Oriole changed from *Accidental* to *Casual*.

Also at the annual meeting, guest Ann Johnson spoke to the committee regarding a need to adapt to the evolving dynamics of reporting birds in Iowa. It was proposed that the committee consider revising the review list by changing the catalyst for a review from a species' status (*Accidental* or *Casual*) to its historical presence (number of archived records). An ad hoc subcommittee was formed to examine this idea.

2022 RECORDS

In 2022, the Committee reviewed 73 records. 68 of those records were accepted and 5 not accepted. The Committee appreciates the efforts of those who document Iowa's bird life and regards each record as deserving thoughtful, careful treatment in its review.

Each record reviewed is assigned a six-digit number (year and sequence number) which is included in this report for future reference. Records are classified as follows: A = Accepted with -S = specimen, -P = photograph, -R = recording, -D = written documentation only, and NA = Not Accepted. In order to be accepted, a record must receive 7 votes on the initial review or more than 5 votes on a subsequent review. The subcategories A-S, A-P, and A-R reflect the majority's opinion and indicate that physical evidence supports the identification. References to *IBL* are the page of the Field Reports or a special note in *Iowa Bird Life* where the record is cited, or a photo of the bird itself. Published notes and previous citations may contain more details than what is contained here.

2022 RECORDS ACCEPTED

Tundra Bean-Goose (*Anser serrirostris*): Iowa's first, a single individual found by Ben Baldwin in a small, mixed flock of Canada Geese and Cackling Geese at Lamoni *Decatur* 29 Nov-17 Dec (stayed about two weeks) (2022-69, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:83, 105, 116, *IBL* cover 93[2], Baldwin 2023).

Tundra Bean-Goose, Big G Lake, Decatur, *8 December 2022. Photograph by Lisa Saffell, St. Louis, MO.*

Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula*): A male was at Saylorville Reservoir *Polk* 20 Apr (2022-36, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 92:107); a second individual was found also at Saylorville Reservoir *Polk* 15-20 Aug (2022-49, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:31).

Common Ground Dove (*Columbina passerina*): Iowa's second occurrence was seen in an Altoona yard *Polk* 7 Nov and later photographed there on 3 December (2022-67, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:34).

Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*): A male was at a feeder on the east shore of Big Spirit Lake *Dickinson* 15–17 Aug (2022-48, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:34, 45); a second male was in Ames *Story* 9 Sep (2022-70, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 93:34).

King Rail (*Rallus elegans*): A single adult was photographed at Red Rock Res *Marion* 13-21 Aug (2022-50, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:35).

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*): Iowa's first Limpkin was found and photographed by Jay Gilliam along the Chariton River *Lucas* 23 Jun (2022-39, **A-P** 7-0, Gilliam 2022, *IBL* 93:6); a second state record was found 16 July at Little Storm Lake *Buena Vista* by Dana Siefer and stayed through 17 Aug (2022-40, **A-P** 7-0, Gilliam 2022, *IBL* 93:9, 35, cover 92[4]); a 3rd record involving two birds was found at Green Island Wildlife Management Area *Jackson* 12 Aug and documented by Carla Secoy (2022-42, **A-P** 7-0, Gilliam 2022, *IBL* 93:35); a 4th record (5th individual) was first found by Michael Lenagh at Woodland Lake, Bondurant *Polk* 20 Oct and continued through 19 Dec when it perished (2022-45, **A-P** 7-0, Gilliam 2022, *IBL* 93:35); a 5th record (6th individual) was photographed by Mark Clemens in *Lee* 5 Nov (2022-46, **A-P** 7-0, Gilliam 2022, *IBL* 93:35).

Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*): A single bird with no tags or leg bands was videotaped at Horseshoe Lake (Spirit Lake) *Dickinson* 23 May. Experts from the International Crane Foundation confirmed there was only one individual in the Eastern Migratory Population without tags or bands at that time, and it was accounted for elsewhere by project staff (2022-35, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:110, Hertzel 2022).

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosus*): One was found and photographed near Salix *Woodbury* 26 Apr (2022-09, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:111).

Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus*

minutus): A 2nd-cycle individual was photographed at Red Rock Reservoir *Marion* 24-25 Aug (2022-73, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:37).

California Gull (*Larus californicus*): An adult was at Sandpiper RA Saylorville *Polk* 25-26 May (2022-31, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:114).

Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*): A 3rd-cycle individual was at George Wyth State Park *Black Hawk* 30-31 Mar (2022-18, **A-D** 6-1, 7-0, *IBL* 92:114).

Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*): Iowa's 8th accepted record and only the 2nd in spring was at Big Creek State Park *Polk* 1 Apr (2022-06, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:115).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*): A single dark individual was at DNR Prairie *Dickinson* 3 May (2022-24, **A-D** 4-3, 7-0); two white immatures were photographed at Big Creek WMA NW *Polk* 17 Jul (2022-41, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:7, 15).

Tricolored Heron, Deere Dike, Dubuque, *3 June 2022. Photograph by Tony Moline, Dubuque, IA.*

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*): An adult photographed at Deere Dike *Dubuque* 3 Jun was Iowa's 7th accepted record and the 2nd in the summer season (2022-37, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:7, cover 93[1]).

White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*): An adult photographed along the Wapsipinicon River near Ionia *Chickasaw* 22, 27 May was Iowa's 3rd accepted record (2022-30, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:116 Anderson 2022).

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*): Although the species is no longer on the review list, a single documentation was submitted and reviewed for an individual found at Green Island WMA *Jackson* 1-11 May (2022-16, **A-P** 6-1, 7-0, *IBL* 92:116).

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*): One photographed near Earlham *Madison* 6 Sep 2022 was missed for publication because of an error on the date. (2022-47, **A-P** 7-0).

Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*): An unprecedented four individuals were recorded during the year. One was photographed near Wall Lake *Sac* 19 Feb (2022-03, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:57); another was at Owego Wetland Complex *Woodbury* 15 Apr (2022-07, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 92:117); a third was photographed in flight west of Lizard Lake County Park *Pocahontas* 6 Oct (2022-55, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:40); and a fourth individual was photographed near Zirbel Slough Wildlife Area *Cerro Gordo* 18 Oct (2022-57, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:40).

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*): One was in a field along Walnut Woods Drive *Polk* 27 Apr (2022-10, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:123); another was at Grundy County Lake *Grundy* 3 May (2022-17, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:123); a third was found at Moeckly Prairie *Polk* 3 May (2022-43, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 92:123).

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*): One was recorded calling at Saylorville *Polk* 11 Apr (2022-19,

A-R 7-0, *IBL* 92:124); another was well-described after being found at Davenport *Scott* 1 May (2022-13, **A-D** 5-2, 7-0 *IBL* 92:124).

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*): An early fall bird was found at Jester Park *Polk* 20 Sep (2022-54, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:43); a late fall individual was at Grimes *Polk* 28 Nov (2022-68, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:43).

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*): Rare in Iowa away from one location in Lee County, a single bird found at Mill Creek Point outside of Adel *Dallas* 7 May was noteworthy (2022-26, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:125).

Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*): An adult female was at Carroll, IA *Carroll* 18-19 Oct (2022-56, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:44, 47).

Varied Thrush, city of Carroll, Carroll, *19 October 2022. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*): Eleven records were reviewed and accepted: One at Ringsted *Emmet* 2 Jan (2022-01, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:62, 70); twelve at Lisbon *Linn* 30 Oct (2022-58, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); at least five at Woodland Lake, Bondurant, IA *Polk* 30 Oct (2022-59, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); two in *Muscatine* 30 Oct (2022-60, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49, 47); one in Ames, along College Creek *Story* 1 Nov (2022-61, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); one in Colfax *Jasper* 2 Nov (2022-62, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); two at Lake Meyer Park *Winneshiek* 3 Nov (2022-63, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); five in a backyard in *Polk* 3 Nov (2022-64, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); two in Hills *Johnson* 4 Nov (2022-65, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); at least two at Iowa State University Horticulture Research Station *Story* 4 Nov (2022-66, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:49); at least five at an Algona backyard feeder *Kossuth* 6 Nov (2022-71, **A-P** 7-0).

Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni*): Two were picked out of small flocks of redpolls: One in LaPorte City *Black Hawk* 25 Jan (2022-02, **A-P** 6-1, 7-0, *IBL* 92:62); another at Oakland Cemetery, Iowa City *Johnson* 4 Mar (2022-04, **A-P** 6-1, 7-0, *IBL* 92:126).

Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*): One on Lundy Bridge Road, Decorah *Winneshiek* 23 Apr was only Iowa's 4th record, but was the 3rd in the last 3 years (2022-08, **A-D** 6-1, 7-0, *IBL* 92:126).

Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*): Five records were reviewed and accepted: One was photographed at Devil's Glen/Hollowview Walk *Scott* 26 Apr (2022-21, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:132); another was photographed in *Jones* 5 May (2022-25, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:132); a third was photographed near Wildcat Den State Park *Muscatine* 14 May (2022-29, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:132); another was at Shimek State Forest Croton Unit *Lee* 28 May (2022-32, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:132); a fifth was recorded and photographed at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* 30 May (2022-33, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:132).

Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*): One photographed

at Noelridge Park *Linn* 30 Aug was Iowa's fifth record (2022-51, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:54); another photographed at the Big Creek spillway area *Polk* 3 Sep was Iowa's sixth (2022-52, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 93:54).

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*): One was at Dakota City *Humboldt* 29 Apr (2022-11, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133); another visited a feeder in Des Moines *Polk* 30 Apr (2022-12, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133); a third was north of Meriden *Cherokee* 30 May (2022-34, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133).

Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*): A male was in Boone *Boone* 1 May (2022-14, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133); another male was at Welsh Lake *Dickinson* 13 May (2022-28, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133).

Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*): A male was found at Sandpiper Recreation Area *Polk* 1-2 May (2022-15, **A-P** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133); another male was at Pike's Timber *Wright* 16 May (2022-44, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 92:133).

Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*): A male was photographed at Oskaloosa *Mahaska* 22 Apr (2022-20, **A-P** 7-0, 92:133); another male was photographed in Bettendorf *Scott* 30 Apr (2022-23, **A-P** 7-0, 92:133); a third male found at Red Rock Reservoir *Marion* 16 Jun was described well (2022-38, **A-D** 7-0, *IBL* 93:13).

2022 RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED

Rufous-naped Tit (*Periparus rufonuchalis*): All reviewers agreed the bird was correctly identified. However, six of seven reviewers doubted the natural occurrence of this bird, believing it more likely to have either escaped as a caged bird or to have arrived inadvertently with human assistance (2022-72, **NA** 1-6).

Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*): The description does not eliminate or even address the reasonable possibility of Eurasian Wigeon X American Wigeon hybrid. Most reviewers do believe at least one parent was Eurasian Wigeon (2022-05, **NA** 5-2 , 1-6).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*): All reviewers found the description lacking in sufficient detail to make the case for this extremely rare migrant. In particular, most thought Pectoral Sandpiper was not eliminated (2022-53, **NA** 0-7).

Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*): In a split vote, four reviewers felt the description was inadequate for separating the bird from Baltimore Oriole or possibly a hybrid Bullock's Oriole X Baltimore Oriole (2022-27, **NA** 3-4).

Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*): Five reviewers agreed the description was too brief to know for certain the bird was a Prairie Warbler (2022-22, **NA** 2-5).

COMMENTS

74 people contributed written documentations along with many photos, videos, and sound recordings in support of the ornithological information summarized above. Listed along with the number of documentations submitted in 2022, they are: Aaron Brees 6, Clayton Will 6, John Bissell 5, Stephen J. Dinsmore 4, Paul Roisen 4, Dana Siefer 4, Ed Thelen 4, Gerald White 4, Tony Moline 3, Bill Blackburn 2, Brandon Caswell 2, Chris Edwards 2, Jay

Gilliam 2, Mark Haindfield 2, Tyler Harms 2, Eli Kenyon 2, Connor Langan 2, Michael Lenagh 2, Betty Lucas 2, John Tollefson 2, Wendy VanDeWalle 2, Rachel Hau Anderson, Grant Askren, Ben Baldwin, Katy Banning, Sherry Brayton, Dana Bricmont, Alan Brown, Mark Brown, Adam Ciha, Mark Clemens, Melissa Cory, Crystal Cross, Kathryn Deetz, Matt Dingman, Thomas Dougherty, Erica Downs, Valerie Eikstadt, Karl Fliris, Rita Goranson, John Gress, Ulrike Grimaldi, Douglas Harr, Dean Hester, Bill Huser, Tom Moon, Paul Morf, Jacob Newton, Bill Ohde, Alan Orr, Sara Pasma, V.J. Pennington, Larry Reis, Vollie Rifner, Connie Ristau, Jerod Schurr, Carla Secoy, David Shealer, Paul Skrade, Dawn Snyder, Tommy Stone, Forrest Stonedahl, Susa Stonedahl, Greg Thede, Denny Thompson, Connor Ties, Jamie Tigges, Sean Vellinga, Britt Vickstrom, Karen Viste-Sparkman, Dan Watkins, Ward Wester, Pam White, Susan Wiesenauer.

Committee members for 2022 with years in which their terms expire were: Mark Brown (2022), Doug Harr (2023), Lee Schoenewe* (2024), Matt Kenne (2024), John Bissell (2025), Francis Moore (2026), Betty Lucas (2027) and Paul Hertzel (secretary, appointed by the committee). Brandon Caswell was nominated by the committee and subsequently appointed by the Board of Directors to fill a regular term beginning in 2023 replacing Mark Brown whose term expired at the end of the year.

Many thanks to Betty Lucas and Francis Moore for reviewing this article and making excellent suggestions that improved it.

*Near the end of 2022, Lee Schoenewe stepped down for medical reasons and was replaced by Matt Kenne.

LITERATURE CITED

Anderson, R. H. and K. Fliris. 2022. White Ibis in Chickasaw County. *Iowa Bird Life* 92:98–100.

Baldwin, B. 2023. First Record of Tundra Bean-Goose for Iowa. *Iowa Bird Life* 93:21–23.

Chesser, R. T., S. M. Billerman, K. J. Burns, C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, B. E. Hernández-Baños, R. A. Jiménez, A. W. Kratter, N. A. Mason, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, D. F. Stotz, K. Winker. 2022. Sixty-third supplement to the American Ornithological Society's *Check-list of North American Birds*, *Ornithology* 139(3), ukac020, https://doi.org/10.1093/ornithology/ukac020

Gilliam, J., D. Siefer and A. Johnson. 2022. First Iowa Records of Limpkin. *Iowa Bird Life* 92:147–151.

Hertzel, P. 2022. Whooping Crane in Dickinson County. *Iowa Bird Life* 92:101–102.

1432 E. State Street, Mason City, IA 50401 (phertzel@rconnect.com)

Field Reports—Spring 2023

Connor Langan

Connor Langan

WEATHER

The warm temperatures at the beginning of March helped facilitate the movement of many early migrants. March culminated in a high of 78°F on 31 March in Des Moines. The lows were not as cold as last spring, but a string of cold days in mid-March led to a temperature of 2°F on 18 March in Pocahontas *Pocahontas*. Several significant snowstorms took place in March, with Corning receiving 6.9 inches of snow on 2 March and Des Moines receiving 6.4 inches of snow on 11 March. Total snow accumulation was above average in all parts of the state save for southern Iowa. Meanwhile, total rain accumulation was below average. Overall, average temperatures were about two degrees below average this month.

April brought about temperatures that seemed to constantly fluctuate. The month began with an inch of snow being deposited in northern Iowa. A surprising temperature occurred a few days later when Beaconsfield *Ringgold* had a high of 88°F on 5 April. The very next day, the monthly lows of 13°F were recorded in Atlantic *Cass* and Audubon *Audubon*. The following week saw towns like Emmetsburg *Palo Alto* and Forest City *Winnebago* and *Hancock* record temperatures of 89°F on 13 April. Meanwhile, Sac City *Sac* set the monthly high of 90°F the next day. Swea City *Kossuth* received the monthly high of 3.5 inches of snow on 16 April, while 2 inches of snow were deposited in Fort Dodge four days after they had a high of 89°F. Corning *Adams* received the most rain in a day with 2.82 inches on 20 April, but the 5.07 inches received for the month in Winterset *Madison* were the most. Overall, average temperatures were more than 1°F higher in most parts of the state. Average monthly rain totals were down substantially.

Following a strange April, May was a bit more normal. The low temperature of 25°F was surprisingly recorded in Chariton *Lucas* on 3 May. Southern Iowa soon experienced hot temperatures, with Osceola *Clarke* recording 91°F on 8 May. However, the highest temperature was 93°F in Waterloo on 31 May. Though May was rather dry, Fort Dodge received 2.69 inches of rain on 31 May while recording 5.8 inches during the month. Average temperatures in most areas of the state were several degrees above historical averages, and average rainfall was several degrees below typical quantities throughout much of Iowa.

HABITAT, GENERAL TRENDS

Migration stalled a week into March as cold temperatures and several

snowstorms set in. However, migratory geese continued to push northward several days later, with large numbers continuing to push through northern Iowa until March 25th. Migratory goose highs were substantially larger than last spring. Dabbling duck numbers were comparable to last spring while diving duck numbers were lower than last spring. Overall, it was a good spring for waterfowl diversity, as the 34 species observed matched the total from last spring.

The warm temperatures at the conclusion of March persisted into April and encouraged early shorebird arrivals. A total of 32 shorebird species were observed, which is down from the highs of 33 in the past few years. A few timely rains created shorebird habitat in April and May, but the historical lack of rain this spring limited ephemeral wetland development. Godwit numbers were lower this spring, but numbers of peeps and yellowlegs were higher than last spring. Neither Whimbrel nor Western Sandpiper was reported, though a Ruff was seen at Cedar River Crossing *Johnson*. The ten gull species reported this spring are about average and 1 species better than last spring.

Raptor numbers were comparable to previous years, though raptor species diversity was down, with 23 species being observed this spring. The six owl species included in that number were two fewer than the previous spring.

Neotropical migrants were on pace this year. Flycatcher species diversity was down two species from the previous spring, with eleven species being observed. There were 21 sparrows detected this spring, and the 35 warbler species were equivalent to last spring.

UNUSUAL SPECIES

After a stellar spring featuring 18 accidental or casual species in 2022, numbers were halved this spring. The three accidental species that were observed included Limpkin, Whooping Crane, and Snowy Plover. The Limpkin record was Iowa's first in the spring, while the Whooping Crane was Iowa's second spring record. Meanwhile, six casual species – Mottled Duck, Ruff, Little Blue Heron, Black Vulture, Prairie Warbler, and Painted Bunting – were documented this spring.

In total, nine review species were documented this spring. Additionally, nine hybrids were observed in the state, with six being waterfowl intergrades. Other notable observations included four White-winged Dove reports, Yellow Rail, Black-legged Kittiwake, Laughing Gull, California Gull, Neotropic Cormorant, Glossy Ibis, three Townsend's Solitaire reports, an abundance of Smith's Longspur reports, Western Tanager, and Lazuli Bunting.

SPECIES DATA

All CAPS – Casual or Accidental species. * – documented. County names are in italics. Full names of contributors are at the end of the article. Abbreviations used: **ad** – adult, **AHHP** – Ada Hayden Heritage Park, **ELC** – environmental learning corridor, **ERVP** – East River Valley Park, **L** – lake, **L&D** – lock and dam, **M** – marsh, **m.ob.** – many observers, **NC** – nature center, **NM** – national monument, **NWR** – national wildlife refuge, **P** – park, **ph** – photo,

R – river, **RA** – recreation area, **Res** – reservoir, **SF** – state forest, **Sl** – slough, **SL** – sewage lagoons, **SP** – state park, **SRA** – state recreation area, **Tr** – trail, **USNWR** – Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge, **W** – wetland, **WA** – wildlife area.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck: No reports

Snow Goose: The high by a large margin was 200,000 on 3 Mar at Snyder Bend P *Woodbury* (GLV). Last was 30 May in *Sioux* (Kyle Post).

Ross's Goose: A high 85 was 1 Apr at South Twin L *Calhoun* (SSP). Last was 13 May at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Eli Weber).

Greater White-fronted Goose: A considerable high of 100,000 was 14 Mar at Snyder Bend P *Woodbury* (GLV). One on 22 May at Amana Lily L *Johnson* was last (MWe, m.ob.).

Snow x Greater White-fronted Goose: One on 4 Mar at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph) 2 on 18 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB-ph), and 1 on 21 Mar at Crystal L *Hancock* (CPL-ph).

Cackling Goose: Two on 22 Apr at Amana Lily L *Johnson* were last (SBi).

Ross's x Cackling Goose: One on 18 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB-ph).

Mute Swan: A high of 3 was reported at Mississippi R L&D 14 *Scott* several times (JKe, SMF, Isacc Caron). This invasive swan was reported in eight counties.

Trumpeter Swan: Peaking from early to mid-March, 370 on 11 Mar (JMc) and 334 on 4 Mar (SBi) at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* were highs.

Tundra Swan: A high of 375 was 5 Mar at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (DAS). A count of 52 on 15 Mar in *Worth* was a notable interior count (CPL-ph). One on 6 Apr at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* was last (JKe). This species was reported in 20 counties.

Wood Duck: A high of 85 was 5 May in *Allamakee* (BCh).

Blue-winged Teal: An assortment of reports from 12 Mar marked the first. A substantial high of 1450 was 1 May in *Allamakee* (BCh).

Cinnamon Teal, Silver Lake, Palo Alto, *15 April 2023. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Cinnamon Teal: All: one male on 30 Mar at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Gerald Gieseking-ph, PaP-ph), one male on 15 Apr at Silver L *Palo Alto* (DSi-ph, ET), one male on 17 and 19 Apr at Sandbar Sl *Dickinson* (ET, Jeremy Winter-ph), and a pair from 20-25 Apr at Tedesco ELC *Story* (AYa-ph, Lee Sutcliffe, m.ob.).

Northern Shoveler: A high of 1250 was 29 Apr at Mitchell Marsh WMA *Union* (Josh Livingston).

Blue-winged Teal x Northern Shoveler: A drake was seen 29 Apr at Sandhill L *Woodbury* (BFH).

Gadwall: Peaking mid to late Mar, the top two counts of 1,000 (JMc) and 800 (BCC) were 15 Mar at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson*.

American Wigeon: Highs were 100 on 24 Mar at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (ASc) and 95 on 10 Mar at Big Marsh WMA *Butler* (CPL). Two on 27 May at Deere Dike *Dubuque* were last (TM).

Mallard, Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Tama, *20 March 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

Mallard: Peaking in mid-Mar, a high of 3,000 was 13 Mar at Dunbar Sl *Greene* (MTW).

Gadwall x Mallard: Three drakes: 8 Apr at Choquette's Pond *Woodbury* (MaH-ph), 16 Apr in Altoona, *Polk* (Ryan McPherren-ph, Allison McPherren), and 25 Apr at Sandhill L *Woodbury* (BFH, JP).

American Black Duck: A high of 5 was 1 Mar at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (Martha Corfman). Last was 13 Apr at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (JKe). This species was reported in 14 counties.

Mallard x American Black Duck: A hen was seen 30 Mar at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (SSP).

MOTTLED DUCK: One persisted from 23 May to 30 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (*JMc-ph).

Northern Pintail: The top four counts were at Saylorville Res *Polk*, with 6,000 on 16 Mar (RLC), 4,832 on 4 Mar (ABu), 3,500 on 4 Mar (AYa), and 3,100 on 20 Mar (BE). Last was a drake on 29 May in *Cerro Gordo* (CPL).

Northern Pintail, Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Tama, *5 March 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

Mallard x Northern Pintail: A drake was seen 25 Mar at AHHP *Story* (WO-ph).

Green-winged Teal: A high of 3,000 was 21 Mar at Browns L *Woodbury* (GLV).

Canvasback: An impressive high of 32,000 was 25 Mar at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* (KJM). One on 20 May at Voas Nature Area *Dallas* was last (KP).

Redhead: A high of 450 was 10 Mar at Big Creek SP *Polk* (CW).

Ring-necked Duck: A high of 3,032 was 25 Mar at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* (KJM).

Greater Scaup: The 29 counties in which this species was reported was nearly double last spring's count of 15. A high of 20 was 3 Mar at Union Grove SP *Tama* (MP). Last was 4 May at Lake Darling SP *Washington* (TE).

Lesser Scaup: A high of 18,018 was 25 Mar at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* (KJM).

Lesser Scaup, Storm Lake, Buena Vista, *11 March 2023. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Surf Scoter: One from 15-21 Apr at Upper Mississippi NWR *Jackson* (TM-ph, m.ob). One on 25 May at AHHP *Story* was the second-latest spring observation (WO-ph, m.ob.).

White-winged Scoter: No reports for the first time since spring 2016 (Harms 2016).

Black Scoter: One from 29 Mar to 8 Apr at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Jerre Tritsch, m.ob.). This bird was the second-earliest spring record.

Long-tailed Duck: Three observations: one on 5 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (EKe-ph), one male on 27 to 28 Mar at Hendrickson M *Story* and *Marshall* (Seth Chamberlain, PMi), and one male on 7 to 9 Apr at South Sabula Lakes P *Jackson* (Bob Walton, m.ob.).

Bufflehead: A high of 483 was 25 Mar at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* (KJM). Last was 19 May at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (RiR).

Common Goldeneye: A high of 700 was 10 Mar at Big Creek SP *Polk* (CW). One on 5 May at Kiowa M *Sac* was last (DSi).

Hooded Merganser: This species peaked in mid-Mar with several counts of more than 100 birds.

Common Merganser: A lingering male named Marvin persisted at AHHP *Story* throughout May and into the summer (WO-ph, m.ob.).

Red-breasted Merganser: Highs were at Raccoon River P *Polk* with counts of 300 on 18 Mar (Gary Zenitsky) and 262 on 25 Mar (Allison McPherren, Ryan McPherren). Last was a late female in *Mitchell* on 28 May (SSt).

Ruddy Duck: A high of 500 was 9 Apr at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (Trey Weaver).

Northern Bobwhite: Reported in 24 counties, a high of 7 was 16 Mar in *Marion* (EKe). One on 29 Apr at Dunbar Sl *Greene* was the most northerly (EEO).

Wild Turkey: A high of 39 was 15 Apr in *Mills* (KJM).

Ruffed Grouse: All observations were at Clear Creek WMA *Allamakee*. Two were reported on 15 May, while one was reported 16 May (TSS, SL).

Greater Prairie-Chicken: All observations were reported around Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* as per usual. The high at the lek this spring was 17 on 7 Apr (DCH).

Gray Partridge: Reported in 17 counties, 2 on 27 Apr in *Cedar* were the most southerly (William and Gayla Hickerson). A high of 6 was 13 Apr at Colo Bogs WMA *Story* (HZ).

Ring-necked Pheasant: A high of 54 was 19 Apr at USNWR *Kossuth* (KJM).

Pied-billed Grebe: A considerable high of 150 was 26 Apr at Hendrickson M *Story* (EEO).

Horned Grebe: First were 3 on 6 Mar at South Sabula Lakes P *Jack-*

son (Ethan Brown-ph). A high of 12 was 7 Apr along the Mississippi R *Jackson* (KJM). Four on 17 May at Hendrickson M *Story* were last (WiC).

Red-necked Grebe: Low numbers this spring, being reported in only two locations: 5 May at Silver L *Worth* (CPL-ph) and both 6 and 27 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (DSi-ph).

Eared Grebe: All: 19 Apr at USNWR *Kossuth* (KJM), 23 Apr at Sweet M *Bremer* (KCR), 24 Apr at Legacy WA *Hardin* (MP), 30 Apr at Kiowa M *Sac* (Jack Coulter, Jennifer Rutten, m.ob.), 6 May at Prairie P *Woodbury* (Randall Williams-ph, m.ob.), 7 May at Mississippi R L&D 11 *Dubuque* (TM-ph), 2 on 9 May at Owego Wetland Complex *Woodbury* (MaH), 10 May at Clear L *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph), and 17 May at Hendrickson M *Story* (WiC).

Western Grebe: Seven reports: 8 Apr at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* became the second-earliest spring record (Thane Dinsdale-details), 5 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (JB-ph, RJT-ph), 6 May at Bays Branch WMA *Guthrie* (WV, KaD-ph), 2 on 6 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (DSi-ph), 19 May at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (JF), 21 May at McIntosh Woods SP *Cerro Gordo* (MH-ph, CPL-ph), and 25 May at East Twin L *Hancock* (CPL-ph).

White-winged Dove: An excellent spring for this species, with four reports: 13 and 15 Apr at Lake Meyer P *Winneshiek* (LR-ph), 22 Apr in *Boone* (WO-ph), 4 May in *Polk* (JB-ph), and 9 May in *Carroll* (VW-ph, EEO).

Mourning Dove: A high of 29 was 11 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RLC).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: First was 4 May in Sayles Yard *Scott* (RAS). A high of 8 was 21 May at Jensen M *Madison* (JBo).

Black-billed Cuckoo: Reported in 29 counties, first was 8 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (MHB). Highs of 3 were reported on several occasions.

Black-billed Cuckoo, 145th Lane, Woodward, Dallas, 20 May 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.

Common Nighthawk: First was 3 May in Lamoni, *Decatur* (BAB). A high of 30 was 19 May in *Linn* (ASc).

Chuck-will's-widow: Not reported at their usual haunt at the Lucas Unit of Stephens SF. Instead, one was 13 May in *Decatur* (LW) and Waubonsie SP *Fremont* hosted 3 on 30 May and 1 on 31 May (EKe).

Eastern Whip-poor-will: Reported in 14 counties, first were 2 on 28 Apr in *Monroe* (Jonah Pouleson). This species was widely reported at Stone SP *Woodbury*, but another notable report was 5 on 19 May at Prairie Heritage Center *O'Brien* (KJM). A nest with two eggs was found 25 May in *Allamakee* (WV).

Chimney Swift: First was one on 20 Apr at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (HDP). A high of 110 birds

were counted 31 May at their roost in *Dubuque* (KJAB).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: First was 26 Apr in *Jackson* (Bob Walton). A high of 11 was 20 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (CPL).

Virginia Rail: First was an early arrival on 10 Apr at Scott County P *Scott* (RyC). A high of 2 was reported several times.

Sora: Two on 6 Apr at Sun Valley Country Club *Ringgold* were first (BAB). A high of 8 was 6 May at Hamlin Garland WA *Mitchell* (SSt).

Sora, Brenton Slough, Dallas, *25 April 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Common Gallinule: First were 2 on 23 Apr at Union Hills WMA *Cerro Gordo* (CPL). Reported in seven counties from *Sac* to *Clinton*, a high of 3 was 28 May at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (Bob Pape).

American Coot: Peaking early to mid-Apr, a high of 3,000 was 9 Apr at Clear Lake *Cerro Gordo* (Trey Weaver).

Yellow Rail: The sole report was 30 Apr at an Amish Farm in *Johnson* (JLF-details).

LIMPKIN: One on 11 May at Nicholson Ford Nature Area *Marshall* is Iowa's first spring record of this species (*ASp-ph).

Sandhill Crane: Peaking in mid-Mar, a high of 101 was 14 Mar at Otter Creek M *Tama* (KS).

WHOOPING CRANE: One from the historic wild population was present from 1 to 8 Apr at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (*Martha Corfman-ph, *TM-ph, *DCJ-ph). This was Iowa's 2nd spring record of a wild Whooping Crane.

Black-necked Stilt: First was 11 Apr at Bank Swallow Bend WA *Warren* (RIA). Reported in ten counties, numbers were better compared to last spring, with a high of 15 being 15 Apr at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (JLF). Last were 5 on 31 May at the same location (JF).

American Avocet: Numbers were consistent with the past few springs, as this species was reported in 26 counties. First were 4 on 10 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (Seth Chamberlain). Impressive highs were 50 on 19 Apr at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Brian Seger) and 48 on 20 Apr at Amana Lily L *Iowa* (DCH). Three on 31 May at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* were last (JF).

Black-bellied Plover: Observed in 11 counties, first was 27 Apr at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (BCC). A high of 13 was 20 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB, JB).

American Golden-Plover: Reported in 27 counties, first was 21 Mar in *Pottawattamie* (Kevin Cornell). An incredible spring for this species, a high of 240 was 4 May at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (Mark Madsen-ph, RiR-ph, ElW). Last was 26 May in *Floyd* (MWe).

Killdeer: A high of 160 was 6 Apr in *Boone* (KJ).

Semipalmated Plover: First was 12 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk*

(TJD). A high of 50 was 13 May at Sweet M *Bremer* (KCR).

SNOWY PLOVER: One at from 27 Apr to 6 May at Jensen M *Madison* (RJT-ph, m.ob.) and one on 7 May at Lily Pond *Iowa* (JF, m.ob.).

Piping Plover: An un-banded individual on 13 May in *Mitchell* was the lone report (SSt-ph).

Upland Sandpiper: First was 11 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (TNJ). Reported in 24 counties, the distribution of this species was similar to last spring. A high of 6 was 27 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (Bill Grossi)-the location of the spring high count for the last five years.

Hudsonian Godwit: First were 2 on 14 Apr at Nobles L *Harrison* (Carla Delucchi). Numbers were average this year following a fantastic spring in 2022, and a high of 30 was 16 Apr at Waubonsie Access *Fremont* (Gerald Gieseking-ph). Last were 2 on 31 May at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (JF).

Marbled Godwit: First were 15 on 16 Apr at Waubonsie Access *Fremont* (Gerald Gieseking-ph) and 7 at Saylorville Res Polk (SJD-ph). Reported in 17 counties, a high of 21 was 19 May at Red Rock Res *Marion* (Dan Watkins).

Ruddy Turnstone: First was 7 May at Storm L *Buena Vista* (DSi-ph). Reported in just over half the counties as last spring, 7, a high of 26 was 19 May at Red Rock Res *Marion* (EKe-ph). Last were 2 on 29 May at the same location (EKe).

RUFF: A female on 11 Apr at Cedar River Crossing *Johnson* (*JMc-ph) tied the 2nd and 3rd-earliest records.

Stilt Sandpiper: First was 16 Apr in Lamoni, *Decatur* (BAB, LW). Though this species was reported in 16 counties, numbers were incredibly poor this spring. The high of 4 on 6 May at Jensen M *Madison* (RJT) was 120 fewer birds than last spring's high (Langan 2022).

Sanderling: First were 2 on 19 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (Ted Keyel-ph). Reported in 12 counties, a high of 9 was 19 May at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (BCC-ph).

Dunlin: Arriving early in good numbers, the third-earliest spring Dunlin was 31 Mar at Dale Maffitt Res *Dallas* (KP-ph). A high of 265 was 21 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB).

Baird's Sandpiper: First was 31 Mar at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Sam Manning). A high of 39 was 29 Apr at South Twin L *Calhoun* (DSi-ph).

Least Sandpiper: First were 7 on 30 Mar at Maskunky M *Mahaska* (DCJ). Highs of 80 were reported several times, marking the first time since 2019 in which a spring high count did not reach the triple digits (Langan 2019).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Firsts were 29 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (EKe-ph) and 2 at Rathbun Res *Appanoose* (CPL-ph, Riley Henry). A high of 75 was 31 May at Keg Creek WMA *Mills* (EKe).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: No reports.

Pectoral Sandpiper: First was 25 Mar along the Tedesco Connector Tr *Story* (AYa). Numbers were fairly average this spring, with a high of 640 on 18 Apr at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (BCC).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: First was 14 Apr at Red Rock Res *Marion*

(EKe). Highs of 240 on 21 May and 200 on 22 May were at the same location (TJD).

Short-billed Dowitcher: One on 27 Apr at Bank Swallow Bend WA *Warren* was a day off of the second and third-earliest records (TJD-ph). Last was 27 May at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (Dawn Gunderson-ph, RiR-ph).

Long-billed Dowitcher: First was 6 Apr at Home L *Decatur* (LW). A high of 45 was 22 Apr near Slater, *Story* (CW-ph). Last was a late individual on 14 May in *Buena Vista* (DSi-ph).

American Woodcock: First was 1 Mar at Red Feather Prairie *Polk* (JB). A high of 12 was 20 Mar at Saddlebrook Wetland Tr *Johnson* (LQ).

Wilson's Snipe: First were 2 on 3 Mar in *Scott* (RAS). Highs were 36 on 3 Apr at Errington M *Polk* (RLC) and 35 on 17 Apr at Doolittle Prairie S Pre *Story* (EKe).

Spotted Sandpiper: Arriving early this year, the 3rd-earliest spring record was tied on 5 Apr in *Marshall* (ASp-ph). A high of 30 was 20 May during a float down the Skunk River *Story* (Christian Baker).

Solitary Sandpiper: First was 13 Apr at Cedar R Crossing *Johnson* (LQ). A high of 11 was 4 May at Red Haw SP *Lucas* (TSS). This species lingered this spring, and a late bird on 27 May in *Kossuth* was last (Steve Murkowski).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Arriving later this year compared to previous springs, first was 23 Mar at Cone M *Louisa* (Susan Nixon, Yvonne Nixon). A remarkable high of 1,100 was 1 May in New Albin, *Allamakee* (BCh).

Willet: First were two early arrivals on 6 Apr at Sweet M *Bremer* (KCR). A sensational count of 113 on 26 Apr at Koutney Pond *Buchanan* was the high (BT, John Tollefson, WV). Last was 23 May at North Iowa Landfill W *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph).

Greater Yellowlegs: First was 11 Mar at Trumpeter M *Lee* (SBi, JMc). Last was 26 May at Maskunky M *Mahaska* (MP).

Greater Yellowlegs, Beaver Creek at Xavier Ave, Dallas, 24 April 2023. Photograph by Merle G. Hall, Granger, IA.

Wilson's Phalarope: First was 6 Apr at Lamoni SL *Decatur* (LW). Peaking from late Apr to early May, a high of 50 was 4 May in *Fremont* (JLF).

Red-necked Phalarope: First was 18 May at Amana Lily L *Iowa* (JF). Reported in 7 counties, a high of 6 was 20 May at South Twin L *Calhoun* (DSi-ph). Last was 28 May at Maskunky M *Mahaska* (DCJ).

Black-legged Kittiwake: Two reports: 1 to 2 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RJT-ph, m.ob.) and 4 Mar to 1 Apr at Red Rock Res *Marion* (JG-ph, SJD-ph, m.ob.).

Bonaparte's Gull: First was 1 Apr at Wapello Lake SP *Davis* (KJM). Last was 14 May at McIntosh SP *Cerro Gordo* (Trey Weaver).

Laughing Gull: One on 20 Apr at Shattuck Turf Farm *Dallas* was the lone record (JB-ph, m.ob.).

Franklin's Gull: First was 5 Mar at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (TM). A high of 460 was 22 Apr in *Dallas* (AB).

Ring-billed Gull: A high of 6,500 was 31 Mar at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Sam Manning).

California Gull: A fantastic spring, with five reports: 4 to 6 Mar at Coralville Res *Johnson* (JF, JMc-ph, JKe), 11 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (JG-ph), 22 to 23 Mar at Iowa River Power Company Dam *Johnson* (MHB-ph, m.ob.), an alternate ad on 25 Mar and 1 Apr at Red Rock Res *Marion* (SJD-ph).

Herring Gull: A high of 200 was 5 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (EKe). An immature lingered until 20 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB, RJT).

Iceland Gull: Five reports: a 2nd cycle 1 Mar at Mississippi River L&D 14 *Scott* (JKe), a 1st cycle 2 Mar at Big Creek SP *Polk* (DTh), an ad 4 to 11 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (JG-ph, EKe-ph), a 3rd cycle 13 Mar at Mississippi River L&D 14 *Scott* (SMF), and an ad 29 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RLC).

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Reported in 10 counties for the third spring in a row. A considerable high of 5 was 1 Apr at Red Rock Res *Marion* (JG-ph). This species once again lingered well into May, with a first summer bird on 9 May at McIntosh Woods SP *Cerro Gordo* being the 2nd-latest spring record (CPL-ph).

Glaucous Gull: There were no reports for the first time since spring 2017 (Harms 2017).

Great Black-backed Gull: One on 4 Mar at Deere Dike *Dubuque* was the lone report (TM-ph, Martha Corfman, DAS).

Least Tern: Four reports: 2 to 5 between 21 to 31 May at Keg Creek P *Mills* (JG, EKe), 2 on 26 May at Browns L *Woodbury* (JP), 1 to 2 on 28 to 31 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB, m.ob.), and 29 May at Floyd R Tr *Woodbury* (Tim Sesterhen).

Caspian Tern: First was 15 Apr at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (DAS, TM). Low numbers compared to the past few springs, with a high of 29 on 19 May at Terry Trueblood RA *Johnson* (JMc-ph).

Black Tern: A collection of reports on 7 May marked the first. A high of 50 was 7 May at Snyder Bend P *Woodbury* (GLV).

Common Tern: Six reports from five counties, firsts were 2 on 14 May at Cedar L *Linn* (JF). A high of 4 was 27 May at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (TM).

Forster's Tern: Several reports on 11 Apr denoted the first arrivals. A high of 35 was 7 May at Little Storm L *Buena Vista* (DSi).

Red-throated Loon: One on 14 Apr at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* was the lone report (JF).

Common Loon: First was an early arrival on 15 Mar at Rathbun Res *Appanoose* (TNJ). A high of 47 was 7 Apr at Rice L *Winnebago* (CPL-ph).

Double-crested Cormorant: Firsts were 2 on 1 Mar at Mississippi River L&D 14 *Scott* (JKe). Highs of 500 were 4 Apr at Synder Bend P *Woodbury* (BFH, JP) and 10 Apr in *Polk* (Denise Ferreira, VW-ph).

Neotropic Cormorant: One on 28 Apr at L Morris *Lucas* (CPL-ph, Riley Henry).

American White Pelican: A high of 3,500 was 19 Mar at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (Carl Shroeder).

American Bittern: First was 9 Apr at Union Grove SP *Tama* (MWe). Reported in 20 counties for the second spring in a row, a high of 2 was recorded several times.

Least Bittern: First was 13 May along the Heritage Tr *Dubuque* (KJAB). Reported in six counties from *Clinton* to *Sac*, a high of 2 was reported several times.

Great Blue Heron: A high of 60 was 28 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (LGR).

Great Blue Heron, Rock Creek State Park, Jasper*, 29 March 2023. Photograph by Christopher Knisley, Colfax, IA.*

Great Egret: Firsts were 2 on 30 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (TJD). A high of 62 was 28 May at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (Bob Pape).

Snowy Egret: Reported in a considerable 11 counties, firsts were 20 Apr with 3 and 1 at Hendrickson M *Story* and *Marshall*, respectively (EEO). The count of 3 was also high for the spring (EEO).

Little Blue Heron: A terrific spring, with four reports: one adult on 21 Apr at Hendrickson M *Story* and *Marshall* (WV-ph, Kathryn Deetz, m.ob.), one adult on 26 Apr at Mallard M *Cerro Gordo* (BVL-ph), one juvenile from 6 to 8 May at Jensen M *Madison* (RJT-details, m.ob.), and one adult on 10 May at L Manawa *Pottawattamie* (Tyler Driver-ph).

Cattle Egret: Firsts were 15 Apr with 3 at Brenton Feedlot *Dallas* (JB) and 1 in Lucas (JG). Reported in 14 counties, a high of 5 was 20 Apr at Veenker Golf Course *Story* (AYa, Lindsey Gapinski, m.ob.).

Cattle Egret, Templar Lagoon, Dickinson*, 23 April 2023. Photograph by Ed Thelen, Spirit Lake, IA.*

Green Heron: Several reports from 19 Apr marked the first. A high of 8 was 22 May at AHHP *Story* (WO).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: First was an early arrival on 1 Apr at ISU Arboretum *Story* (AYa, Lindsey Gapinski-ph, Rachel Siller). Reported in 19 counties, this species peaked in late Apr with a sensational high of 23 on 24 Apr at Dunbar Sl *Greene* (MTW, VW-ph).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: One on 3 May at Parker's Woods *Cerro Gordo* was the lone record (Rita Goranson).

Glossy Ibis: Numbers were down considerably from the past few springs, with a single report of one on 24 Apr at Dunbar Sl *Greene* (MTW).

White-faced Ibis: First was 15 Apr at Dewey's Pasture WMA *Clay* (DSi-ph). Another excellent spring, this species was reported in 34 counties. Last were 3 on 20 May at Nishna Bend RA *Shelby* (Scott Buchanan).

BLACK VULTURE: One on 14 Apr at Saylorville L *Polk* (AB-ph) was the first spring report since 2019 (Langan 2019).

Turkey Vulture: A high of 200 was 29 May in Burlington *Des Moines* (SBi).

Osprey: A day off of the 3rd-earliest record, one on 7 Mar in *Johnson* was first (Dean Hester-details). For the 5th consecutive year, the high was at AHHP Story where counts of 5 on 5 and 25 Apr were best (WO).

Osprey, Big Creek State Park, Polk, *27 March 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

Golden Eagle: Reported in 7 counties, a high of 2 was 5 Mar along Owl Avenue *Boone* (CW-ph). Last was one on 9 May at Owego Wetland Complex *Woodbury* (MaH-ph).

Northern Harrier: Highs of 8 were 4 Mar at Port Louisa NWR *Louisa* and 19 Apr at USNWR *Kossuth* (KJM).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: A high of 3 was 6 May at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (JB, TJD). Last was a late bird on 26 May at Little Sioux P *Woodbury* (Randall Williams-details).

Cooper's Hawk: A high of 3 was reported on several occasions.

Northern Goshawk: No reports

Bald Eagle: An impressive count of 350 was 4 Mar at Upper Mississippi NWR *Jackson* (Noah Karvelis, John Karvelis).

Mississippi Kite: Reported in six counties: 1-2 from 8 May onward at the typical breeding grounds in *Polk* (RJT, m.ob.), one on 13 May at New Haven Potholes P *Mitchell* (SSt-details), 1-3 from 20 May onward at Ottumwa Cemetery *Wapello* (SBi-ph, m.ob.), one on 24 May in Clear Lake *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-details), one on 29 May in *Decatur* (LW-details), and one on 29 May at St. Joseph Cemetery *Johnson* (JHu-details).

Red-shouldered Hawk: A high of 4 was 16 Mar at Heery Woods SP *Butler* (KJM). This species continues to increase its range in the state, with reports in *Buena Vista*, *Dickinson*, *Humboldt*, and *Monona* being notable.

Broad-winged Hawk: Several on 14 Apr were first. Numbers were low this spring, and a count of 150 on 20 Apr in *Black Hawk* (WV) was the high by a large margin.

Swainson's Hawk: First was 1 Apr at Dunbar Sl *Greene* (EEO). Reported in 33 counties, this spring was not quite as impressive as the previous two springs but notable nonetheless. Apr 22 was a big day for this species, with four of the top five counts being made. A high of 28 was at Baldwin Farm *Decatur* (BAB). One on 4 May at Wildcat Den SP *Muscatine* (Peter Leabhart-ph) was

the most easterly. Last was 16 May in *Fremont* (Garret Sheets).

Swainson's Hawk, Kellerton WMA, Ringgold, *7 April 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

Red-tailed Hawk: Low numbers this spring other than a high of 31 on 27 Mar at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (RJT).

Rough-legged Hawk: A high of 3 was 2 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (LW). Last was 23 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RJT).

Eastern Screech-Owl: Reported in 11 counties, a high of 2 was 11 May at Winterset City P *Madison* (SBa-ph).

Great Horned Owl: A high of 8 was 7 Apr at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (KJM).

Barred Owl: A high of 12 was 7 Apr at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (KJM).

Long-eared Owl: The lone report was 2 on 7 Apr in *Jackson* (KJM).

Short-eared Owl: Reported in five counties, highs of 4 were 11 Mar at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (Daniel Bellich) and 13 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (AB). Last was 24 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (Doug Woodby).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Two reports at traditional haunts for this species: 8 Mar at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (DP) and 22 Mar at Grammer Grove WA *Marshall* (MP).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: First was 5 Mar at ERVP *Story* (Kris Bossard-ph).

Pileated Woodpecker: Notable counties with reports included *Greene*, *Guthrie*, *Harrison*, and *Kossuth*.

Merlin: Reported in 24 counties, no more than one was reported. Reports from 20 Apr to 11 May in Waterloo, *Black Hawk* described an individual in a territory in which this species has bred in the past (DGE, AKO, WV).

Peregrine Falcon: A high of 6 on 26 May at Yellow River SF *Allamakee* (DS-details) described two ads and four juveniles.

Great Crested Flycatcher: First was 25 Apr at Mud L *Dubuque* (Jim Crumpler). Highs of 19 on 14 May (AB) and 16 on 23 May (BTh) were at Brown's Woods *Polk*.

Western Kingbird: A terrific spring, with reports in ten counties. First was 5 May in *Pottawattamie* (Jim Hughes). An impressive count of 7 was 27 May in *Woodbury* (Randall Williams).

Eastern Kingbird: Firsts were 21 Apr at F.W. Kent P *Johnson* (Gabriella Blanchard) and *Scott* (RyC). A high of 19 was 27 May at Cone M *Louisa* (Dawn Gunderson).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Firsts were 11 May at Little Sioux Scout Ranch *Monona* (Cathy Prettyman) and Boone Forks WMA *Webster* (Amber Darbyshire). Highs of 2 were reported several times throughout May.

Least Flycatcher, Ochee Yahoe County Park, Worth, *15 May 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Eastern Wood-Pewee: A trio of reports on 4 May marked the first. A high of 19 on 23 May at Brown's Woods *Polk* (BTh).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: First were 2 on 12 May at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (LW). Reported in 25 counties, highs of 4 were 19 May (Noah Arthur) and 20 May (CPL) at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk*.

Acadian Flycatcher: Firsts were 10 May at Mines of Spain SRA *Dubuque* (DAS) and Ashworth and Greenwood Parks *Polk* (AB). A high of 12 was 20 May at Brinton Timber *Washington* (JMc). Reports on 26 May at Iowa Lakeside Lab *Dickinson* (Carrie Thom-details) and 27 May at Clausen's Cove *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph) were notable.

Alder Flycatcher: Four reports on 15 May denoted the first. Numbers were low this spring, with highs of 4 being 19 May at Matsell Bridge Natural Area *Linn* (JE) and 27 May at Clausen's Cove *Cerro Gordo* (CPL).

Willow Flycatcher: Arriving on 7 May for the 3rd straight year, first was at Deere Dike *Dubuque* (DAS). A high of 10 was 21 May at Jensen M *Madison* (JBo).

Least Flycatcher: Late this year, with firsts being 4 May at Shimek SF *Lee* (HDP) and Sayles Yard *Scott* (RAS). Highs of 18 on 14 May and 13 on 13 May were at ERVP *Story* (SSP).

Eastern Phoebe: First was 11 Mar at Sullivan Sl Road *Des Moines* (JMc, SBi). A high of 7 was 24 May at Wildcat Den SP *Muscatine* (Brad Dawson).

White-eyed Vireo: Early this year, with one on 24 Apr in *Clarke* being first (DeT-details). Eight of the top nine counts were at Shimek SF *Lee*, with the high being 6 on 30 Apr (EEO). Numbers were stellar, with reports from 19 counties. The most notable was one on 6 May in Dunkerton, *Black Hawk* (Brian Fulton-ph).

Bell's Vireo: A week later than usual, first was 7 May at Saddlebrook Wetland Tr *Johnson* (Terri Macey). A high of 13 was 21 May at Folsom Point Preserve *Mills* (JG).

Yellow-throated Vireo: First was 27 Apr at Geode SP *Henry* (KEr). Four separate counts of 7 were the highs.

Blue-headed Vireo: First was 23 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (Mark Madsen). A late individual on 29 May at Sayles Yard *Scott* was a day off of the 3rd-latest record (RAS-details).

Philadelphia Vireo: Several reports on 7 May were first. The top 6 counts were in *Story*, with the best being 5 on 16 May at ERVP (AYa). Lasts were 28 May at New Haven Potholes P *Mitchell* (SSt) and Eagle Point P *Dubuque* (KJAB).

Warbling Vireo: First was 23 Apr at Shimek SF *Lee* (SBi). A high of 24 was 8 at Langwood Education Center *Louisa* (KJM).

Red-eyed Vireo: Arriving late this spring, firsts were 3 at Shimek SF *Lee* and 2 at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (TNJ). A high of 35 was 16 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (Emma Hodges).

Loggerhead Shrike: First was a very early arrival on 7 Mar at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (LW-details). A high of 4 on 13 May in *Johnson* involved 2 ads and 2 nestlings (MHB-ph, JBo-ph). Reported in 10 counties, observations on 8 Apr in *Monona* (MaH-ph) and 19 Apr in *Worth* (CPL-ph) were noteworthy.

Northern Shrike: Reports of singles in 14 counties. Last was 7 Apr at Rice L *Worth* (CPL)

Northern Shrike, Big Creek WMA, Polk, *30 March 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

Fish Crow: No longer a review species, the 2nd-earliest record was made 30 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (SJD). One to two were at Saylorville for the remainder of spring. A second observation was 29 Apr at Blackhawk Bottoms *Des Moines* (SBi-audio).

Horned Lark: Eleven of the top 14 counts were 12 Mar, with a high of 200 in *Sac* (DSi).

Bank Swallow: Later than previous springs, firsts were one at Tedesco ELC *Story* (Kirk Moloney) and 4 at Mines of Spain SRA *Dubuque* (Bob Pape). Several counts of 50 were high.

Tree Swallow: First were 4 (Jason McCurdy) and 10 (Jimmy Wiebler) on 23 Mar and Nahant M *Scott*. Peaking in late Apr, a high of 1800 was 30 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (CW).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: A trio of reports on 7 Apr marked the firsts. A high of 200 was 15 May at Maquoketa Caves SP *Jackson* (JE).

Purple Martin: First was 29 Mar at Purple Martin L Water Resource Area *Polk* (TJD-ph). A fantastic count of 200 was 30 Apr at a colony at Willie Suchy WMA *Mahaska* (DCJ).

Barn Swallow: First was 2 Apr in *Scott* (Jesse Ray).

Cliff Swallow: First were 2 on 16 Apr at L LaShane *Decatur* (LW). A high of 540 was 14 May at Volga L *Fayette* (MWe).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: First was 26 Mar in *Story* (WO). A high of 32 was 22 Apr at McFarland P *Story* (ABu, BTh). Last was a lingering bird on 24 May at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory *Dickinson* (Carrie Thomph).

Golden-crowned Kinglet:Peaking in early Apr, a high of 30 was 4 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson*

(HDP). Lingering into May, last was 8 May at Lake Meyer P *Winneshiek* (BCh).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Highs of 4 were 13 May at Thorpe P *Winnebago* (KJM) and 17 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (LM, Jason Paulios). Last were 21 May at Soaring Eagle NC *Clinton* (EEO) and Ambrose A. Call SP *Kossuth* (Presley Riggs).

Brown Creeper: Peaking from late Mar to early Apr, a high of 8 was 2 Apr at Mines of Spain SRA *Dubuque* (KJAB). Two reports were made after mid-May.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: A day off of the 3rd-earliest record, first was 6 Apr at Sayles Yard *Scott* (RAS).

House Wren: First was 9 Apr at Ashworth and Greenwood Ps *Polk* (RJT-ph).

Winter Wren: A solid spring, with reports in 26 counties. Peaking in early Apr, highs of 5 were 5 and 6 Apr at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (LM). Last was 28 Apr at ERVP *Story* (SSP).

Sedge Wren: First was 23 Apr at Union Hills WMA *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-audio). Numbers were very low, with a high of 6 on 6 May at Wickiup Hill Learning Center *Linn* (JE).

Marsh Wren: First was 15 Apr at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (ASp). A high of 15 was 8 May at Trumbull L *Clay* (Steven Tracy).

Gray Catbird: First was 22 Apr at Devil's Glen *Scott* (SuS). A high of 33 was 13 May at Heritage Tr *Dubuque* (KJAB-ph).

Brown Thrasher: First was 25 Mar at Heron Bend Conservation Area *Lee* (KJM, Cindy Owsley). A high of 8 was 29 Apr at Jensen M *Madison* (SBa).

Brown Thrasher, 140th Street, Jefferson, *27 May 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Northern Mockingbird: One on 13 Apr in Shelby was first (Scott Buchanan) Reported in 11 counties, observations in *Floyd*, *Sioux*, and *Story* were notable.

Eastern Bluebird: Highs of 15 were 5 Mar at Dale Maffitt Res *Dallas* (VW-ph, Denise Ferreira) and 27 Mar at Big Creek SP *Polk* (CW).

Townsend's Solitaire: Three reports: 1 Mar at Swan L SP *Carroll* (KJM), 2 Apr at a private residence in *Boone*, and 10 Apr at Ledges SP *Boone* (KJ-ph).

Veery: First was 5 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (BCC-ph, LQ, Mark Pecha). Highs of 10 and 8 were 21 May at Amana Woods *Iowa* (Paul Morf, JBo).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: First was 3 May at Hawkeye WMA *Johnson* (DH). The top three counts of the spring were from nocturnal flight call observations, with the high being 15 on 13 May in *Polk* (RJT). This species did not linger, with the last being 22 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (JoW) and Sweet M *Bremer* (KCR).

Swainson's Thrush: First was 26 Apr at ERVP *Story* (Peter Miller). A high of 71 was tallied during a nocturnal flight count on 12 May in *Polk* (JB).

Hermit Thrush: Firsts were 30 Mar with one at Turkey Creek Educational Area *Cass* (Craig Hensley) and 2 at Black Hawk P *Black Hawk* (DGE). Numbers rebounded following two poor springs, with a high of 18 on 19 Apr at Clear Lake SP *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph). Last was 4 May at Wanatee P *Linn* (BCC-details).

Wood Thrush: A trio of reports on 29 Apr were first. Highs of 10 were 13 May at Scott County P *Scott* (William and Gayla Hickerson) and 22 May at Woodland Mounds State Preserve *Warren* (Will Carlson).

American Robin: A high of 500 was 5 Apr at Don Williams RA *Boone* (EEO).

House x Eurasian Tree Sparrow: One male was seen 30 Mar and 16 Apr at AHHP *Story* (WO).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow: Reported in 35 counties, several reports in *Winneshiek* were notable. Three counts of 40 were highs.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Bjorkboda Marsh, Hamilton, *20 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.*

American Pipit: A good spring, with reports in 29 counties. First were 2 on 6 Mar at Red Rock Res *Marion* (EKe-ph). A high of 40 was 23 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (Ethan Ellis, Christian Baker). A surprising total of 10 on 20 May at Grammer Grove WA *Marshall* became the 3rd-latest spring record (ASp-ph).

Purple Finch: A high of 11 was 19 Apr at Lake Meyer P *Winneshiek* (BCh). Last was 13 May at Seed Savers Exchange *Winneshiek* (Bruce Ventura).

Common Redpoll: After two consecutive springs of reports, there were none this spring.

Red Crossbill: The lone report was 16 Mar at Heery Woods SP *Butler* (KJM).

White-winged Crossbill: No reports for the first time since spring 2019 (Langan 2019).

Pine Siskin: A poor spring, with reports in only 10 counties. A high of only 2 was 6 May at Stine Barn *Polk* (POR, Toni Proescholdt). Last was 12 May at Scott County P *Scott* (RyC).

Lapland Longspur: A good spring, with reports in 35 counties. A sizable high of 1650 was 29 Mar in *Worth* (CPL).

Smith's Longspur: One of the best springs for this species in Iowa's history. After two consecutive springs of reports in only four counties, this spring featured reports in 18 counties. First were 3 on 25 Mar at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (DTh). Peaking in mid-Apr, highs of 280 and 250 were 16 Apr at Lehman Organic Farm *Polk* (AB-ph, JG-ph). Three on 11 May in *Hancock* became the record-late observation (SSP-details).

Snow Bunting: A fantastic spring, with reports in 16 counties. All of the reports were made between 10 and 15 Mar, with an extraordinary high of 1050 on 12 Mar at James Ave Sod Farms *Johnson* (MHB-ph).

Grasshopper Sparrow: Several on 29 Apr were first. Highs of 8 were 6 May at Indiangrass Hills IBA *Iowa* (Christine McCall, Andrew Thomas) and 29 May at Red Feather Prairie *Polk* (KVS).

Lark Sparrow: First was 13 Apr in *Winneshiek* (BCh). A trio of reports denoting 6 were highs.

Chipping Sparrow: First was 21 Mar at Mount Sterling W *Van Buren* (TMC, J.G. Chapman). A high of 45 was 8 May at Clear Lake SP *Cerro Gordo* (CPL).

Clay-colored Sparrow: The record-early report was 30 Mar at Big Creek SP *Polk* (TJD-audio). Peaking in early May, a considerable high of 50 was 4 May at Rapp Park RA *Page* (JLF).

Field Sparrow: First was 20 Mar at Hickory Hill *Johnson* (LM). A high of 16 was 19 Apr in *Des Moines* (Bobby Wilcox).

Fox Sparrow: First was 2 Mar at Sycamore Bottoms *Johnson* (Mark Madsen). Peaking late Mar to early Apr, a high of 29 was 5 Apr in *Black Hawk* (TSS, Chuck Becker). The 2nd-latest spring record was tied on 6 May with one at Pickeral L *Buena Vista* (DSi-ph).

American Tree Sparrow: A high of 150 was 26 Mar at Hendrickson M *Story* (EKe). This species did not linger, with several on 23 Apr being last.

Dark-eyed Junco: Peaking early Apr, a high of 500 was 1 Apr at Ledges SP *Boone* (EEO). Last was 8 May in *Scott* (RyC-details).

White-crowned Sparrow: High of 16 were 4 Mar at Port Louisa NWR *Louisa* (KJM) and 25 Apr in *Buena Vista* (Joleen Dentlinger). Last was 29 May at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (EEO).

Harris's Sparrow: A high of 20 was 4 May at Big Sioux RA *Sioux* (Daniel Swier). Lingering this spring, last was 26 May at Fox Farm *Winnebago* (RAS).

White-throated Sparrow: Low numbers for the 3rd consecutive spring, with highs on 5 May with 66 in *Worth* (CPL) and 65 at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (DGE). Last was 21 May at Peggy's Tr *Story* (SSP).

Vesper Sparrow: First was 31 Mar in *Clinton* (William and Gayla Hickerson). A high of 10 was 16 Apr at Lehman Organic Farm *Polk* (AB).

LeConte's Sparrow: Three reports: 2 on 7 Apr at Greenbelt L *Black Hawk* (KFl-ph), one on 7 May in *Shelby* (Scott Buchanan-ph), and one on 20 May at Otranto WA *Mitchell* (Steve Stucker-details).

American Tree Sparrow, Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Tama, *5 March 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

Trumpeter Swan, Otter Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Tama*, 5 March 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

Blue-winged Teal, Rock Creek State Park, Jasper*, 28 April 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

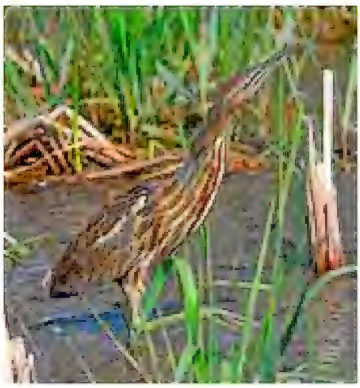
Cinnamon Teal, Silver Lake, Palo Alto*, 15 April 2023. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Green-winged Teal, Rock Creek State Park, Jasper*, 29 March 2023. Photograph by Christopher Knisley, Colfax, IA.*

Virginia Rail, Bjorkboda Marsh, Hamilton*, 20 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.*

Wilson's Snipe, Marsh Farms Wetland, Dallas*, 23 April 2023. Photograph by Merle G. Hall, Granger, IA.*

American White Pelican, Rock Creek State Park, Jasper, *29 March 2023. Photograph by Christopher Knisley, Colfax, IA.*



American Bittern, Brenton Slough, Dallas, *25 April 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Snowy Egret, Brenton Slough, Dallas, *21 April 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

White-faced Ibis, Lizard Lake, Pocahontas, *22 April 2023. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Barred Owl, Lake Keomah State Park, Mahaska, *27 April 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Red-headed Woodpecker, Raccoon River, Greene, *27 April 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

Red-breasted Nuthatch, 1820 Prince Street, Grinnell, Iowa, Poweshiek*, 4 April 2023. Photograph by Ken Saunders II, Grinnell, IA.*

House Wren, Brenton Slough, Dallas*, 9 May 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

Grasshopper Sparrow, Denison Municipal Airport, Crawford*, 5 May 2023. Photograph by Dana Siefer, Storm Lake, IA.*

Swamp Sparrow, Xavier Ave., Dallas, 26 April 2023. Photograph by Merle G. Hall, Granger, IA.

Yellow-breasted Chat, 145th Lane, Woodward, Dallas*, 20 May 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

Orchard Oriole, Spark's Cemetery Area, Boone*, 15 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.*

Prothonotary Warbler, Ledges State Park, Boone*, 31 May 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

American Redstart, Spark's Cemetery Area, Boone*, 28 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.*

Cerulean Warbler, Pikes Peak State Park, Clayton*, 8 May 2023. Photograph by Ed Thelen, Spirit Lake, IA.*

Palm Warbler, Ledges State Park, Boone*, 3 May 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

Indigo Bunting, Spark's Cemetery Area, Boone*, 28 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.*

Dickcissel, Jefferson*, 9 May 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.*

Nelson's Sparrow: The lone report was 6 May at Ham's M *Buchanan* (KJM).

Henslow's Sparrow: Firsts were 15 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (JKe) and *Appanoose* (TNJ). Reported in nearly twice as many counties—29—as last spring, a high of 15 was 31 May at Pleasant Creek RA *Linn* (JOD).

Savannah Sparrow: First was 21 Mar in *Winnebago* (CPL). A high of 14 was 29 Apr along the Tedesco Connector Tr *Story* (SSP).

Song Sparrow: Highs of 70 were 24 Mar at Princeton WMA *Scott* (RyC) and 7 Apr at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (KJM).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Firsts were 2 Apr at Green Island WMA *Jackson* (MWe) and Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (JG). Highs were 4 May in *Sioux* with 28 at Oak Grove & Big Sioux P and 25 at Big Sioux RA (Daniel Swier). Last was 24 May in *Woodbury* (JP).

Swamp Sparrow: Numbers peaked in late Apr, with a high of 44 on 23 Apr at Union Hills WMA *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph).

Spotted Towhee: Five reports of single males made for a good spring: 26 Mar in *Decatur* (LW), 27 Mar to 13 Apr at Saylorville Res *Polk* (RJT-ph, m.ob.), 10 Apr at AHHP *Story* (WO), 5 May at Bacon Creek P *Woodbury* (GLV), and 6 May at Waubonsie SP *Fremont* (JG).

Eastern Towhee: First was 27 Mar at Iowa River Power Company Dam *Johnson* (DH). A high of 10 was reported five times.

Spotted x Eastern Towhee: A male on 11 May at Kuehn Conservation Area *Dallas* (KP-ph)

Yellow-breasted Chat: The first was at Shimek SF *Lee* for the 4th consecutive spring, with 2 observed on 4 May (HDP). It was a very good spring, with reports made in 24 counties. A high of 6 was 11 May in *Linn* (Paul Morf). One on 8 May in *Clayton* was notable (ET).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: First was 27 Mar at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (TJD-ph). For the 3rd consecutive year, the high was at USNWR *Kossuth*, with 45 on 10 May being the top count (AYa, Lindsey Gapinski).

Bobolink: Firsts were in *Decatur* on 28 Apr at Nine Eagles SP and Lamoni SL (LW). A high of 14 was 26 May at Bays Branch WMA *Guthrie* (Bill Holland).

Eastern Meadowlark: First was 3 Mar in *Decatur* (LW). A high of 35 was 13 Apr at Kellerton WMA *Ringgold* (Warren Wicks).

Western Meadowlark: Highs of 30 were 13 Mar in *Pottawattamie* (Jake Mohlmann) and 4 Apr at Sandhill L *Woodbury* (BFH, JP).

Eastern Towhee, Big Creek State Park, Polk, *19 April 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

Orchard Oriole: First was 3 May at Red Haw SP *Lucas* (TSS). The top eight counts were in counties along the Missouri R, with highs of

12 on 16 May in *Lyon* (Margie Reitsma) and 25 May at DeSoto NWR *Harrison* (Doug Overacker, Julie Karlson).

Baltimore Oriole: A trio of reports on 25 Apr marked the first. A high of 24 was 10 May at AHHP *Story* (WO-ph).

Red-winged Blackbird: A high of 30,000 was 6 Apr in *Johnson* (Ethan Ellis).

Rusty Blackbird: A high of 110 was 28 Mar at AHHP *Story* (AYa, Lee Sutcliffe). Lasts were 25 Apr at AHHP *Story* (WO) and Dean Wetlands *Appanoose* (TNJ).

Brewer's Blackbird: First were 20 on 6 Mar at Miller P *O'Brien* (Eric Harrold). Reported in 27 counties, a high of 53 was 1 Apr in *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph). Last was a group of 30 on 29 Apr at Owego Wetland Complex *Woodbury* (BFH, Rob Towler, GLV).

Common Grackle: Highs of 10,000 were 12 Mar at Cone M *Louisa* (PF) and 30 Mar in *Guthrie* (CW).

Great-tailed Grackle: Reported in 27 counties, a high of 20 was 26 Apr in *Greene* (VW).

Ovenbird: An early arrival on 21 Apr at Greenbelt L *Black Hawk* was a day off from the 3rd-earliest record (DGE-details). Highs of 16 on 28 May (Brennan Roy-audio) and 15 on 7 May (SBi) were at Shimek SF *Lee*.

Worm-eating Warbler: Three reports in three counties: 7 May at Saulsbury Bridge RA *Muscatine* (Peter Leabhart-ph), 24 May at Shimek SF *Lee* (JKe-details), and 24 May at Shimek SF *Van Buren* (RJT-ph).

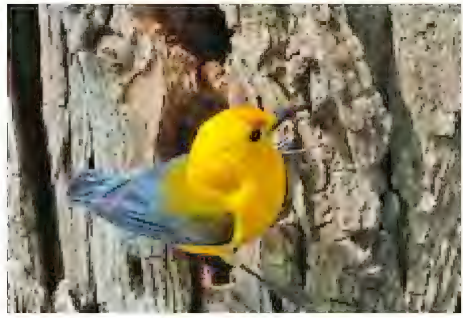
Louisiana Waterthrush: First was 8 May at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (JG). Reported in 30 counties, highs of 4 were at four different locations.

Northern Waterthrush: For the 3rd consecutive year the high was 12, with the report being 7 May at Clear Lake SP *Cerro Gordo* (CPL). Last was 28 May in *Guthrie* (Linda Powell).

Golden-winged Warbler: A trio of reports on 5 May were first. Highs of 6 were 8 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (Jason Paulios) and 13 May at Pilot Knob SP *Hancock* (KJM). Last was caught in a mist net 25 May at Macbride Nature RA *Johnson* (Jonah Pouleson).

Blue-winged Warbler: First was 26 Apr at Coralville Res *Johnson* (DH). A high of 10 was 9 May in *Linn* (Paul Morf-ph).

Black-and-white Warbler: First was 28 Apr at Honey Creek SP *Appanoose* (Dewey McConville). Highs of 9 were reported several times. Last was 28 May at Effigy Mounds NM *Allamakee* (Amy Sheldon).



Prothonotary Warbler, Ledges State Park, Boone, *27 May 2023. Photograph by Douglas Harr, Ogden, IA.*

Prothonotary Warbler: First was 28 Apr at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (RJT). A high of 15 was 7 May in *Clayton* (Kat Busse).

Tennessee Warbler: Arriving late, first was 3 May at Lamoni SL

Decatur (LW). Excellent numbers were reported during the peak in mid-May, with a high of 213 on 14 May at Brown's Woods *Polk* (AB).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First was 15 Apr at North River Valley P *Story* (Kevin Bourke). A high of 15 was 9 May at Peggy's Tr *Story* (Will Carlson-ph). Last was 21 May at Eagle Point P *Clinton* (EEO).

Nashville Warbler: Arriving late and departing early, firsts were 2 May at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (TNJ) and *Scott* (Chuck Leib). A high of 35 was 13 May at ERVP *Story* (SSP). Last was 24 May at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory *Dickinson* (Carrie Thom).

Connecticut Warbler: First was 13 May at New Haven Potholes P *Mitchell* (SSt). Reported in 13 counties, highs of 2 were 19 May at Matsell Bridge Natural Area *Linn* (JE) and 23 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (AKO). Last was caught in a mist net 25 May at Macbride Nature RA *Johnson* (Jonah Pouleson).

Mourning Warbler: First was 9 May in *Van Buren* (RiR). A high of 7 was 20 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (CPL-ph). This species persisted through May.

Kentucky Warbler: First was 29 Apr at Shimek SF *Van Buren* (MHB). A high of 5 was 28 May at Shimek SF *Lee* (Brennan Roy).

Common Yellowthroat: First was 21 Apr at Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt *Polk* (TMH). A high of 42 on 21 May at Jensen M *Madison* (JBo).

Hooded Warbler: Several reports on 12 May were first. This species was only reported in 3 counties: *Delaware*, *Johnson*, and *Polk*.

American Redstart: First was 2 May at Mines of Spain SRA *Dubuque* (TM). A high of 77 was 27 May at Clausen's Cove *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph).

Cape May Warbler: First was 4 May at Brookside P *Story* (Hannah Leabhart). Reports in 31 counties made for a solid spring, and highs of 3 were 12 May at both Smith L *Kossuth* (DSi-ph, Shere Krusemark) and Robison Wildlife Acres *Story* (ABu, Will Carlson-ph). Last was 24 May at Palisades-Kepler SP *Linn* (BCC-audio).

Cerulean Warbler: First was 5 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (Jason Paulios, HDP). A considerable high of 31 was recorded on a river paddle on 7 May in *Clayton* (Kat Busse).

Northern Parula: First were 3 on 13 Apr at Wildcat Den SP *Muscatine* (Susan Nixon). Highs of 9 were 29 Apr at Lacey-Keosauqua SP *Van Buren* (MHB) and 3 May at Devils Glen P *Scott* (Brian Lubinski).

Magnolia Warbler: First was 5 May at Mines of Spain SRA *Dubuque* (DAS). A high of 18 was 14 May at Lost Island Lake SP *Palo Alto* (Trish Gearhart, Chris Gearhart, Robert Gearhart). Last was 31 May at Brookside P *Story* (SSP).

Bay-breasted Warbler: First was 5 May at Sayles Yard *Scott* (RAS). Peaking mid-May, a high of 5 was 13 May at AHHP *Story* (WO). Last was 28 May at Pinicon Ridge County P *Linn* (KaD). `

Blackburnian Warbler: First was 3 May at Scott County P *Scott* (RyC). A high of 5 was 19 May at Matsell Bridge Natural Area *Linn* (JE).

Bay-breasted Warbler, My Yard, Dickinson, *13 May 2023. Photograph by Ed Thelen, Spirit Lake, IA.*

Yellow Warbler: First was an early arrival on 21 Apr at Nahant M *Scott* (Jason McCurdy). A high of 40 was 16 May at Big Sioux RA *Sioux* (Daniel Swier).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Many reports on 6 May marked the first. Highs were 22 on 14 May at Lost Island Lakes SP *Palo Alto* (Trish Gearhart, Chris Gearhart, Robert Gearhart) and 21 on 20 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (CPL).

Blackpoll Warbler: Several reports on 5 May were first. A high of 16 was 12 May at Brown's Woods *Polk* (BTh). Last was 28 May at Kuehn Conservation Area *Dallas* (Lindsay Wiemer).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Three reports: 15 and 16 May at Silver Sioux RA *Cherokee* (DSi-ph), 16 May at Jefferson County P *Jefferson* (Todd Burkhardt), and 19 May at Matsell Bridge Natural Area *Linn* (JE).

Palm Warbler: One on 15 Apr at Deere Dike *Dubuque* tied the 3rd-earliest record (DAS-details). A high of 28 was 10 May at Cardinal M *Winneshiek* (BCh). Last was 21 May at Hickory Grove P *Story* (HZ).

Pine Warbler: Reported in 11 counties, firsts were 15 Apr in *Scott* (Kathy Rowland-ph) and 2 at Sweet M *Bremer* (KFl-ph). The other count of 2 was 24 Apr at West Lake County P *Scott* (SMF).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: First was 10 Mar at Saylorville Res *Polk* (KVS, SCS). A high of 190 was 7 May at Hidden Lakes Campground *Cerro Gordo* (CPL-ph).

Yellow-throated Warbler: First was 7 Apr in *Johnson* (Angie Hoth). Highs of 5 were all at Eagle Point P *Dubuque*, with reports on 22 and 29 Apr (KJAB) and 21 May (EEO).

Prairie Warbler: One reported from 3 to 26 May at the usual haunt at Shimek SF *Lee* (SMF, m.ob.) and one 17 May at Sugar Bottom WA *Johnson* (HDP-audio, m.ob.).

Yellow-throated Warbler, Ledges State Park, Boone, *15 April 2023. Photograph by Clayton Will, Madrid, IA.*

Black-throated Green Warbler: Firsts were 28 Apr at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (LW) and Lake Meyer P *Winneshiek* (BCh). A high of 8 was 14 May at Lost Island Lakes SP *Palo Alto* (Trish Gearhart, Chris Gearhart, Robert Gearhart). Last was 29 May at Fairmount Cemetery *Scott* (Brad Dawson).

Canada Warbler: Three reports on 12 May marked the first. Highs of

6 were 20 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (CPL-ph) and 21 May at Coralville Res *Johnson* (HDP). Last was 30 May at Hickory Hill P *Johnson* (LM).

Wilson's Warbler: First were 2 on 2 May at Hartman Reserve *Black Hawk* (AKO). A high of 11 was 20 May along the South Skunk River Tr *Story* (SSP).

Summer Tanager: The 2nd-earliest report was made when a male was seen 14 Apr in *Polk* (Todd Szabo-ph). A high of 5 was 21 May at Waubonsie SP *Fremont* (JG). Birds in *Buena Visita*, *Dickinson*, *Humboldt*, and *Woodbury* were notable.

Scarlet Tanager: First was 23 Apr at Nine Eagles SP *Decatur* (LW, BAB). A high of 9 was 14 May at Brown's Woods *Polk* (AB).

Western Tanager: The lone record was an ad male on 11 May in *Mitchell* (Kathy Carroll).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: First was a male on 23 Apr in *Dubuque* (Michael Stallsmith). A high of 23 was 21 May at Hitchcock NC *Pottawattamie* (ABu).

Blue Grosbeak: First was 30 Apr in *Lee* (EEO). Reported in 24 counties, highs of 3 were 17 May at Saylorville Res *Polk* (Brenda Greaves) and 21 May at Owego Wetland Complex *Woodbury* (James Beard, Kent Davis).

Lazuli Bunting: A male on 14 May at Raiders Acres *Woodbury* was the lone report (Rob Towler-ph).

Indigo Bunting: First was 29 Apr in *Muscatine* (Dawn Gunderson). A high of 28 was 12 May at Browns Woods *Polk* (BTh).

PAINTED BUNTING: An adult male on 15 May was in *Linn* (BCC-ph, WV, Kim Pagel-ph, m.ob.).

Dickcissel: First was 1 May at Indian Creek NC *Linn* (Garvin Filbert). A high of 32 was 24 May at Neal Smith NWR *Jasper* (Mike Donaldson).

COMMENTS

Despite the great effort put in by birders across the state, the total of 305 bird species observed this spring was lower than spring 2022 (314) and spring 2021 (312). A total of 4 reports were submitted from *Audubon* throughout the spring, while *Adams* and *Humboldt* each received 6 reports. *Polk* totaled 255 birds this spring, with *Johnson* (247) and *Story* (241) trailing.

The most apparent trend that I noticed this spring compared to last was the number of people who cited Merlin in their eBird reports. While Merlin is a terrific tool—particularly for beginning birders and those who struggle to hear birds—it is important to keep in mind that Merlin is not always accurate. Therefore, many of the notable observations that were submitted following Merlin detections could not be used in the field report if no details or photos of the bird were provided. As artificial intelligence continues to improve, be sure to keep in mind that good details and/or photos of birds will always be the most valuable information to confirm an identification.

LITERATURE CITED

Harms, T. 2016. Field reports-spring 2016. *Iowa Bird Life* 86: 94-123.
Harms, T. 2017. Field reports-spring 2017. *Iowa Bird Life* 87: 106-131.
Langan, C. 2019. Field reports-spring 2019. *Iowa Bird Life* 89: 101-127.
Langan, C. 2022. Field reports-spring 2022. *Iowa Bird Life* 92: 103-135.

1003 Willow Drive, Grundy Center, IA 50638 (clangan16@gmail.com)

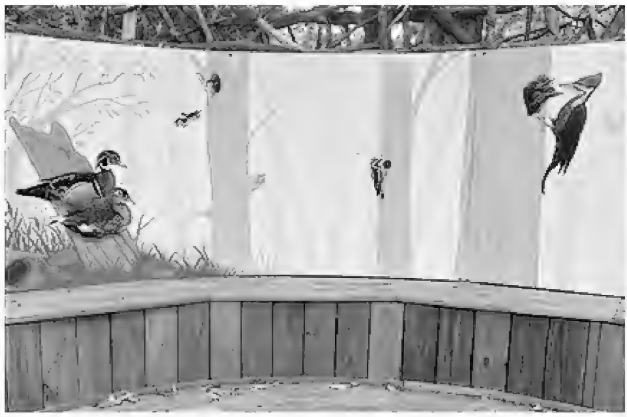
CONTRIBUTORS

Reid Allen	RIA
Kristin/John Anderson-Bricker	KJAB
Ben Baldwin	BAB
Sharon Bauer	SBa
Neil Bernstein	NPB
John Bissell	JB
Sarah Bissell	SBi
Bill Blackburn	BiB
Ian Bootsmiller	IB
Jayden Bowen	JBo
Aaron Brees	AB
Alan Brown	AlB
Mark Brown	MHB
Anna Buckardt Thomas	ABu
Brandon Caswell	BCC
Bob Chapman	BCh
Ryan Christensen	RyC
Diane Crookham-Johnson	DCJ
Raymond Cummins	RLC
Therese Cummiskey	TMC
Kathryn Deetz	KaD
Diane Dentlinger	DD
Stephen J. Dinsmore	SJD
Tom Dougherty	TJD
Jim Durbin	JOD
Dave Eastman	DGE
Jesse Ellis	JE
Tom Ellsworth	TE
Bery Engebretsen	BE
Kelly Ertz	KEr
Carolyn Fischer	CJF
Pip Fisher	PF
Karl Fliris	KFl
James Forde	JF
Sylvia Fredericks	SFr
Steven Freed	SMF
James Fuller	JLF
Jay Gilliam	JG
Ulrike Grimaldi	UDG
Karl Grotheer	KGr
Mark Haindfield	MaH
Tyler Harms	TMH
Douglas Harr	DCH
Candace Havely	CHa
Paul Hertzel	PH
Dean Hester	DH
Mary Hodak	MH
James Huntington	JHu
Bill Huser	BFH
Ann Johnson	AMJ
Thomas Johnson	TNJ
Julie Johnston	JJo
Karl Jungbluth	KJ
Eli Kenyon	EKe
Jim Kettelkamp	JKe
Jeremy Klatt	JK
Connor Langan	CPL
Susan LeMaster	SL
Betty Lucas	BVL
James McCoy	JMc
Kelly McKay	KJM
Logan Melvin	LM
Tony Moline	TM
Tom Moon	DTM
Wolfgang Oesterreich	WO
Eric Ollie	EEO
Alan/Karen Orr	AKO
Shane Patterson	SSP
Paul Pearson	PaP
Valerie Pennington	VJP
Diana Pesek	DP
Hai-dang Phan	HDP
Kevin Powers	KP
Jerry Probst	JP
Mark Proescholdt	MP
Linda Quinn	LQ
Colleen Radebaugh	CR
Richard Randell	RiR
Kris/Craig Rash	KCR
Larry Reis	LR
Billy Reiter-Marolf	BR
Paul Roisen	POR
Mark/Deb Rolfes	MDR
Linda Rudolph	LGR
Rex Rundquist	RWR
Ken Saunders	KS
Richard Sayles	RAS
Andy Scanlon	ASc
Tom Schilke	TSS
David Shealer	DAS
Dana Siefer	DSi
Paul Skrade	PDBS
Stuart Sparkman	SCS
Andy Spellman	ASp
David Steil	DS
Susa Stonedahl	SuS
Steve Stucker	SSt
Debi Talbott	DeT
Ed Thelen	ET
Bill Thomas	BTh
Dennis Thompson	DTh
RJ Thompson	RJT
Bill Tollefson	BT
Wendy VanDeWalle	WV
Karen Viste-Sparkman	KVS
Gerald Von Ehwegen	GLV
Victor Webber	VW
Mark Welford	MWe
Matt Wetrich	MTW
Jonathan Wilcox	JoW
Clayton Will	CW
Eliza Willis	ElW
Logan Wilson	LW
Aaron Yappert	AYa
Hank Zaletel	HZ

IOU Fall Meeting

Kevin Murphy

Eighty-one birders (including ten first-time attendees) gathered at Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Cedar Falls September 23-25, 2023 for the annual Fall Meeting. Hartman Reserve was the perfect venue for our meeting - the Nature Center was an ideal for gathering, the surrounding 340-acre woodland has hosted more than 200 bird species, and it was conveniently located near other fall birding hotspots in eastern Iowa. Everyone was excited to close out our 100th year as an organization at this beautiful location.



The Nesting Birds of Iowa mural located in the bird's nest seating area at the Hartman Reserve Nature Center is comprised of five panels of artwork depicting local native bird species and their nesting types. Local artist Caylin Jayde rendered each feather by hand, aiming to capture biological accuracy and the beauty in the plumage of each species. Photograph by Caylin Jayde.

For our Friday evening social, we partnered with the Black Hawk County Conservation Board to host local nature artist Caylin Jade for the release of a special outdoor mural at Hartman Reserve. The mural, located in an outdoor seating area near the Nature Center, highlights 11 of Iowa's nesting birds. Attendees enjoyed refreshments and the opportunity to meet with Caylin on Friday evening as well as view some of her other work (which included many beautiful pieces featuring Iowa birds). Although the rainy evening kept us indoors, attendees were able to view and enjoy the mural throughout the weekend.

As is tradition, Saturday started with several exciting field trips to Hartman Reserve, George Wyth State Park, Sweet Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Prairie Lakes Park, and a special trip to a private mitigation wetland. It was a little breezy, but the temperature was pleasant and the rain avoided us for much of the morning.

Saturday afternoon programs included presentations by Iowa State University graduate student Lindsey Gapinski on her work comparing bird community composition on Wetland Reserve Program sites across Iowa, IOU member and University of Iowa medical student Jayden Bowen on the intersection of birds and human health, and IOU member Ann Johnson on a newly-developed open-source website for sharing information about birding

locations across Iowa (birdinghotspots.org). The pinnacle of our Saturday festivities was our banquet and keynote address from Jon Dunn, author and authority on the birds of North America and beyond. Jon delivered a wonderfully informative presentation on the nuances of *Calidris* sandpipers, sending everyone home with several tips for better identifying these tricky birds. Many thanks to Jon for joining us!

The weather was perfect for our Sunday morning field trips, which returned to the same five locations as Saturday. In total, attendees tallied 120 species on the weekend including 19 species of warblers and many other exciting migrants.

This meeting would not have been possible without the thoughtful planning of Vice President Kevin Murphy. We are extremely grateful for assistance from the following members of the Prairie Rapids Audubon Society: Francis Moore secured our wonderful venue for the weekend, Tom Schilke organized all field trips, and Charlene Heiar and David Voigts for helping with the registration table. Thanks also to field trip leaders Katie Klus, Wendy VanDeWalle, and Al Brooks and to the Black Hawk County Conservation Board for hosting us.

Attendees: Pam Allen, Reid Allen, Rebecca Bates, Will Bates, Lance Bauer, Sharon Bauer, John Bissell, Kris Bossard, Jayden Bowen, Alan Brown, Carol Brown, Anna Buckardt Thomas, Joyce Burkhardt, Todd Burkhardt, Katie Byerly, Robert Cecil, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Kathryn Deetz, Stephen Dinsmore, Karen Disbrow, Tom Dougherty, Jon Dunn, Carol Fisher, Pip Fisher, Barb Fisher-Krueger, Jo Ford, Laura Franks, Jessalyn Gray, Suzanne Gucciardo, Joel Haack, Linda Haack, Tyler Harms, Douglas Harr, Paul Hertzel, Lois Hughes, Merle Ihne , Ann Johnson, Julie Johnston, Paul Kimball, Sue Kooiker, Mary Leigh, Chuck LeMaster, Susan LeMaster, John McCormick, Floramay Miller, Steve Miller, Francis Moore, Kevin Murphy, Eric Ollie, Bob Pape, Bruce Plakke, Linda Plakke, Philip Plourde, Colleen Radebaugh, Rachel Ruden, Barbara Sanders, Nicole Sanders, Andy Scanlon, Mikayla Scanlon, Tom Schilke, Jean Schmitz, Dana Simon, Keegan Slick, Steven Slick, Maricela Stakland, Ron Stakland, Tom Stone, Andrew Swift, Bill Thomas, Cecille Thompson, Dennis Thompson, Bill Tollefson, John Tollefson, Wendy VanDeWalle, Karen Viste-Sparkman, David Voigts, Mark Welford, Gerald White, Pamela Wingert, Hank Zaletel, Linda Zaletel

1015 W 5th St., Boone, IA 50036 (kevin.murphy39@gmail.com)

IOU Board Meeting Fall 2023

September 23, 2023

The Fall 2023 Iowa Ornithologists' Union (IOU) Board Meeting was held on 23 September 2023 at the Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Board members present included President Tyler Harms, Vice President Kevin Murphy, Treasurer Tom Dougherty, Secretary Katie Byerly, Board Members Eric Ollie, Wendy VanDeWalle, Diane Crookham-Johnson, Anna Buckardt Thomas. Committee members Ann Johnson and Joel Haack were also in attendance. President Harms called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

The Spring 2023 Board meeting minutes are available and posted on the IOU website. Anna Buckardt Thomas moved to accept the minutes as posted. Wendy VanDeWalle seconded the motion. Board members voted unanimously to accept the spring board meeting minutes.

Treasurer Tom Dougherty shared with the board the current financial report for the IOU. The Iowa Ornithologists' Union currently has a balance of $127,000 minus expenses from the current fall meeting and Iowa Bird Life publications. There is expected income from the renewal of memberships that usually occurs in December as well as interest income from our investments. Expected expenses are estimated to be $14,000 with the fall meeting requiring $5,500 to cover costs and $8,500 to publish Iowa Bird Life publications. The overall adjusted net income for the calendar year is a negative $2,500. Diane Crookham-Johnson moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Wendy VanDeWalle seconded. The Treasurer's report was passed by a unanimous vote by the board.

President Harms called on committee members present to report on their committees:

Publications: Ann Johnson shared that a publication chairperson is needed as she is just filling in for now. The first issue for 2023 is currently in layout. Publication has been delayed by completion of the record reports.

Records: Tyler had information from the Records Committee. They have reviewed 11 reports and accepted 7 of those for this year. The Records Committee has no recommendations or budget requests.

Projects: Joel Haack reported that the Projects Committee received more project proposals than in the past. This could be related to the Projects Committee reaching out to conservation boards and other birding associations to make them aware of the monies available. The projects committee was able to grant the allotted $5,000 to eight different birding projects throughout the state. The Projects Committee has reviewed grant requests for the larger sum available ($50,000). The committee is suggesting that the $50,000 be divided between two project requests. The board members discussed if all the IOU members should be included in the voting or if the decision should be made by the board members. It was decided that it was the purpose of the board to make

decisions regarding the allocation of available funds.

Library/Historical: Hank Zalatel is the only member on this committee. He would welcome help. The historical committee had no new information to share.Membership: This committee is chair-less and committee-less. Will Bates is serving as the Membership Coordinator. We have 425 members, which is 20 more members than last year. Doug Harr and Karen Disbrow assist with manning IOU display boards at birding/nature related events. Katie Byerly volunteered to chair the Membership committee.

Events: The Events committee is non-staffed.

Communications: The Communication committee is non-staffed.

Old Business:

The Projects committee recommends that the $50,000 allocated for projects be divided between the Brenton Slough and Nahant Marsh grant requests. The committee suggested to the board that $35,000 be donated towards a viewing platform at Brenton Slough and $15,000 towards the bird information signage at Nahant Marsh. Motions for this vote have already been completed online. The board voted unanimously to accept the project committee's recommendations. President Harms will inform the members at the membership meeting this afternoon.

New Business:

Anna Buckardt Thomas has agreed to take over as chairperson of the Projects Committee. She will be replacing Joel Haack who has fulfilled his term. Wendy VanDeWalle has volunteered to serve on the Projects Committee. The Projects Committee has a member that has not been involved or reachable. Wendy has agreed to cover the remaining year of this member's term and then continue as a member for a normal four-year term. Scott Buchanan has also offered to serve on the Projects Committee. Anna Buckardt Thomas moved that we approve the removal of the current absent member and add Wendy VanDeWalle and Scott Buchanan to the committee. Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the board.

Regarding the Membership Committee, Diane Crookham-Johnson moved that Katie Byerly serve as chairperson of the Membership Committee with Tom Doughtery seconding the motion. The motion was passed.

President Tyler Harms gave the floor to Diane Crookham-Johnson for discussion regarding strategic planning. Diane has previous experience with an organization that specializes in helping boards complete strategic planning. Canary Consulting helps non-profits organize and agree on their mission and vision. Board members had questions regarding the time frame and commitment. The proposal will be mailed to board members and the board will discuss it more during the next online board meeting.

Ann Johnson reported that the Iowa Birding Yellowbooks need to be updated and reprinted. Joel Haack suggested that the $5,000 project's budget be increased. Tyler Harms shared a Big Day competition fund-raiser. Tom Dougherty pointed out that many of the IOU members are generous with

their annual membership renewals by paying more than the needed lowest membership due.

At 1:22 pm Anna Buckardt Thomas moved that the board meeting adjourn. Tom Dougherty seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Byerly, IOU Secretary

IOU Fall 2023 Membership Meeting

September 23, 2023

The Iowa Ornithologists' (IOU) Fall Membership Business meeting was held on September 23, 2023 at the Hartman Reserve Nature Center in Cedar Falls, Iowa. President Tyler Harms called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Thirty-one IOU members were in attendance with four guests.

President Harms asked for the approval of the Spring 2023 Membership Business meeting minutes as posted on the IOU website. Hank Zalatel moved that the minutes be accepted with Rebecca Bates seconding the motion. Approval of said minutes were approved unanimously by the members present.

Treasurer Tom Dougherty presented the Treasurer's Report. In this report, figures are rounded to the nearest $500. The Net Income Year to Date is $1,500. The income is calculated around $4,000 with $2,500 from IOU membership dues and $1,500 from interest from investments. Expected expenses are estimated to be $14,000 with the Fall meeting requiring $5,500 to cover costs and $8,500 to publish Iowa Bird Life publications. The overall adjusted net income for the calendar year is a negative $2,500. The IOU has total assets of $127,000 invested with most of these monies being available from estate donations. Karen Disbrow moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Diane Crookham-Johnson seconded the motion. Members present voted to accept the Treasurer's Report.

President Harms introduced the board members including Will Bates the Membership Coordinator. Committee chairs were then called on to give committee reports:

Publication Committee: In lieu of a committee chair, Ann Johnson shared that the new IBL editor has the next edition in layout and it includes several interesting articles.

Records Committee: Paul Hertzel reported that the 2022 Annual Report is almost complete and will be published in an upcoming IBL. He also shared how the number of sightings needing review have decreased significantly with the change in how birds are triggered from casual to accidentals. eBird and improvement in photography has made record review much easier. To date, the records committee has reviewed 11 documents compared to 43 documents last year at this time.

Projects Committee: Joel Haack shared that they had received 12 applications for the $5,000 grant. The projects committee chose to fully support 4 projects and partially fund 4 more. The committee also reviewed applications for the $50,000 project's donation. The committee recommended to the board that $35,000 be donated towards a viewing platform at Brenton Slough and $15,000 towards the bird information signage at Nahant Marsh.

Library/Historical Committee: Hank Zaletel informed the members that the IOU archives going back to 1923 are stored at Iowa State University. Hank

has recently been sharing old photos on the IOU Facebook page. Mr. Zalatel is the only member on the Historical committee, and he would welcome any volunteers to join his committee.

Membership Committee: Will Bates, Membership Coordinator, reported that IOU has 23 new members with the average membership total being around 400. The goal is to increase membership as well as the participation of the current members. Katie Byerly has volunteered to chair the Membership Committee. There are currently no other committee members on the membership committee. Karen Disbrow and Doug Harr have the IOU display boards and have been volunteering at other birding/nature events to promote the IOU. They are looking for an IOU member to volunteer in the eastern section of Iowa.

Events Committee: Currently there are no Events Committee members.

Communication Committee: Currently there are no Communication Committee members. Wendy VanDeWalle added that the IOU Facebook page now has 951 followers. President Harms shared that the board has discussed starting an electronic newsletter.

Board Members Report: President Harms informed members that the board has met three times since the Spring meeting

Under new business, President Harms notified the membership that the board did approve the allocation of the $50,000 divided between the Brenton Slough and Nahant Marsh projects as recommended by the Projects Committee.

Thank you to Kevin Murphy, Vice-President, and the Prairie Rapids Audubon Club for planning the Fall Meeting. Hank Zalatel moved that the meeting adjourn with Kevin Murphy seconding. The Fall IOU Membership meeting came to an end at 4:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Byerly, IOU Secretary

Fifty Years Ago in *Iowa Bird Life*

James J. Dinsmore

The September 1973 *Iowa Bird Life* was a fairly average 28-page issue. In the lead article, Mrs. W. C. DeLong of Lamoni described her trip with a group of students from Graceland College to Yucatan, Belize, and Guatemala. Their main objective was to view the ruins of the Tikal region but here she describes her encounters with several new bird species she saw on her trip.

The fall meeting was held 22-23 September in Burlington with 56 people attending. No business meeting was held, The Saturday evening speaker was not able to attend and talks on birds of Colombia and nesting American Coots were presented instead. The 99 species found on the field trips included most of the expected species for this time of year including 14 warbler and 9 sparrow species. Current members will be surprised to learn that Canada Goose, Wild Turkey, American White Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant, and Ring-billed Gull, all now common fall birds, were not found.

In another article, Gladys Black described birding areas in Marion County. With the closing of Red Rock Dam in 1969, many of the areas familiar to current birders were either undeveloped or very different from current conditions.

The summer field reports section is fairly long with coverage extending from April into September. Some of the more interesting reports were nesting Piping Plovers and Least Terns at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge and nesting Pine Siskins in Sioux City. Other birds of interest were Eared and Western grebes in June, a flock of 15 Whimbrels, and two Black-billed Magpies in Linn County.

Among the book reviews, two of the more interesting were of a reissue of Arlie Schorger's classic book on the Passenger Pigeon and a book on cranes of the world by Lawrence Walkinshaw.

A letter from I.O.U. President Darlene Ayres urging greater participation in I.O.U. activities, an article on birds illustrated on postage stamps, and a notice describing an upcoming North American Hawk Migration Conference in Syracuse, New York fill out the issue.

646 Mallory Hill Drive, The Villages, FL 32162 (oldcoot@iastate.edu)

Index—2023

Compiled by James J. Dinsmore

A
Amana, 106-115
Ames, 105, 106-115, 116
Andalusia, Illinois, 106-115
Avocet, American, 6, 35, 133

B
Baldwin, Ben, First record of the Tundra Bean-Goose for Iowa, 21-23
Bean-Goose, Tundra, 21-23, 29, 30, 82, 83, 105, 116, 122
Bird Friendly Iowa, 68
Birding, 1-2
Bittern
  American, 7, 38, 88, 137, 146
  Least, 7, 10 38, 137
Blackbird
  Brewer's, 51, 99, 104, 116. 150
  Red-winged, 5, 8, 51, 99, 104, 115, 150
  Rusty, 51, 99, 104. 115. 150
  Yellow-headed, 8, 50, 78, 82, 99, 105, 149-150
Bluebird
  Eastern, 8, 44, 78, 92, 104, 113, 142-143
  Mountain, 75, 81, 92-93, 98
Board of Directors meeting, *See* Iowa Ornithologists' Union
Bobolink, 8, 13, 50, 88, 150
Bobwhite, Northern, 6, 28, 33, 81, 86, 103, 109, 131
Book review, 14-15
Boone County, 104, 106-115, 116
Brant, 75
Bremer County, 106-115, 116
Brochu, Christopher A., What's your trigger species? 76-78
  _____ and Colin D. Sumrall, Why do our checklists change? 5-7
Bressler, Mick, Hitchcock hawk watch, fall migration, 2022, 59-62
Buchanan County, 106-115
Bufflehead, 6, 33, 85, 103, 109, 131
Bunting
  Indigo, 13, 54, 148, 157
  Lark, 125
  Lazuli, 128, 153
  Painted, 13, 75, 125, 128, 153
  Snow, 21, 49, 93 104, 114, 144
  Burlington, 106-115, 116
Byerly, Katie
  IOU board meeting fall 2023, 158-160
  IOU fall 2023 membership meeting, 161-162
  Iowa Ornithologists' Union spring 2023 board meeting, 70-71
  Membership meeting of Iowa Ornithologists' Union 6 May 2023, 68-69

C
Canton, SD, 106-115
Canvasback, 6, 32, 84, 103, 109, 130
Cardinal, Northern, 8, 12, 98, 109, 115
Carroll County, 102
Carter. Dennis, obituary of, 63
Cass County, 104, 106-115, 116
Caster, Chris, Iowa Christmas Bird Count, 2022-2023, 102-116
Caswell, Brandon and Dean Hester, Field reports—fall 2022, 27-57
Catbird, Gray, 8, 78, 105, 142
Cedar Falls-Waterloo, 106-115
Cedar Rapids, 106-115
Chat, Yellow-breasted, 8, 50, 147, 149

Cherokee, 106-115
Checklists, 3-5
Chickadee, Black-capped, 7, 104, 113
Christmas Bird Count, 102-116
Chuck-will's-widow, 6, 132
Clinton, 102, 103, 105, 106-115, 116
Collared-Dove, Eurasian, 6, 86, 95, 103, 110
Coot
American, 6, 35, 86, 103, 110, 133
Caribbean, 73
Cormorant
Double-crested, 7, 38, 88, 103, 116, 136
Neotropic, 7, 128, 136
Cowbird, Brown-headed, 8, 51, 99, 104, 115
Crane
Sandhill, 6, 10, 18, 19, 35, 78, 87, 103, 116, 133
Whooping, 122, 128, 133
Creeper, Brown, 8, 43, 47, 82, 92, 104, 113, 142
Crossbill
Red, 93, 105, 116, 143
White-winged, 49, 105, 143
Crow
American, 7, 42, 104, 113
Fish, 7, 42, 123-124 141
Cuckoo
Black-billed, 6, 34, 132
Yellow-billed, 6, 9, 34, 132
Curlew
Eskimo, 73
Long-billed, 1, 78

D
Dallas County, 102, 106-115
Davenport, 103, 104, 106-115, 116
Decatur County, 21-23
Decorah, 102, 104, 106-115, 116
Des Moines, 102, 104, 106-115, 116
De Soto National Wildlife Refuge, 102, 106-115, 116
Dickcissel, 2, 12, 13, 54, 105, 116, 148, 153
Dinsmore, James J.,
Fifty years ago in *Iowa Bird Life*, 18, 72, 117, 163
Index—2023, 164-172
Dipper, American, 73
Dove (*See also* Collared-Dove)
Common Ground 29, 34
Mourning, 6, 86, 103, 110, 132
White-winged, 82, 86, 128, 132
Dowitcher
Long-billed, 36-37, 135
Short-billed, 7, 36, 135
Dubuque, 103, 104, 105, 106-115, 116
Duck (*See also* Whistling-Duck)
American Black, 31, 84, 102, 109, 130
Harlequin, 75
Long-tailed, 33, 81, 85, 103, 116, 131
Mottled, 28, 31, 73, 122, 128, 130
Ring-necked, 6, 32, 85, 109, 130
Ruddy, 6, 33, 85-86, 103, 109, 131
Wood, 6, 9, 31, 84, 102, 108, 129
Dunbar Slough, 102
Dunlin, 6, 36, 134

E
Eagle
Bald, 7, 40, 45, 58, 59, 78, 81, 88-89, 95, 103, 111, 138
Golden, 39, 61, 88, 95, 103, 110, 138
Egret
Cattle, 7, 39 137
Great, 7, 39, 137
Snowy, 7, 39, 137, 146
Eldora-Union, 106-115, 116

F
Falcon
Peregrine, 1, 7, 41, 61, 91, 103, 112, 139
Prairie, 41, 62, 81, 91, 105
Field reports
fall, 27-57
spring, 127-155
summer, 6-13
winter, 79-100
Fifty years ago in *Iowa Bird Life*, 18, 72, 117, 163
Finch
House, 105, 114
Purple, 49, 105, 114, 143
Financial report, 16-17
Flicker, Northern, 7, 90, 97, 104, 112
Flycatcher
Acadian, 7, 41, 140
Alder, 7, 41, 140
Great crested, 7, 41, 139
Least, 7, 41, 42, 140
Olive-sided, 7, 41, 139
Scissor-tailed, 41
Willow, 7, 11, 41, 140
Yellow-bellied, 7, 41, 140

G
Gadwall, 6, 31, 84, 102, 108, 130
Gadwall x Mallard, 130
Gallinule, Common, 6, 9, 35, 133
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray, 8, 47, 142
Godwit
Hudsonian, 36, 134
Marbled, 6, 36, 134
Goldeneye, Common, 33, 85, 103, 109, 131
Golden-Plover, American, 6, 35, 45, 133-134
Goldfinch
American, 8, 11, 49, 93, 105, 114
Lesser, 124
Goose
Cackling, 21, 30, 83, 102, 108, 129
Canada, 6, 21, 22, 30-31, 83, 108
Greater White-fronted, 6, 30, 83, 102, 108, 129
Ross's, 6, 21, 30, 83, 102, 108, 129
Ross's x Cackling Goose, 129
Snow, 6, 30, 82-83, 102, 108, 129
Snow x Greater White-fronted Goose, 129
Goshawk, Northern, 40, 60, 88, 105, 116, 138
Grackle
Common, 8, 51, 99, 104 115, 150
Great-tailed, 8, 51, 99
Grebe
Eared, 34, 132
Horned, 33, 86, 103, 116, 132
Pied-billed, 6, 33, 86, 103, 116, 131-132
Red-necked, 6, 33, 132
Western, 34, 82, 86, 132
Green Island, 106-115
Grinnell, 106-115
Grosbeak
Black-headed, 125
Blue, 13, 48, 54, 153
Evening, 28, 29, 47, 49, 75, 82, 93, 105, 116, 124
Pine, 75
Rose-breasted, 13, 54, 105, 111, 153
Ground-dove, Common, 122
Grouse, Ruffed, 6, 33, 131
Gull
Bonaparte's, 37, 97, 135
California, 38, 123, 128, 136
Franklin's, 7, 38, 136
Glaucous, 87, 103, 116, 136
Great Black-backed, 87-88, 103, 116, 123, 136

Herring, 7, 38, 87, 103, 110, 136
Iceland, 38, 87, 103, 116, 136
Laughing, 7, 38, 128, 136
Lesser Black-backed, 7, 38, 87, 110, 136
Little, 37, 122-123
Ring-billed, 7, 38, 87, 103, 110, 136
Sabine's, 37
Gyrfalcon, 62, 75

H
Haack, Joel, Report of the Projects Committee for 2023, 101
Harrier, Northern, 7, 39, 58, 59, 81, 85, 95, 103, 110, 138
Hawk
Broad-winged, 7, 28, 40, 58, 60, 139
Cooper's, 7, 28, 39, 45, 58, 59-60, 88, 103, 111, 138
Ferruginous, 29, 40, 61, 75, 82, 89, 96, 123
Red-shouldered, 7, 28, 40, 60, 89, 95, 103, 111, 138-139
Red-tailed, 7, 40, 58, 59, 60, 89, 96, 103, 111, 139
Rough-legged, 40, 46, 60-61, 89, 96, 103, 111, 139
Sharp-shinned, 28, 39, 58, 59, 88, 103, 111, 138
Swainson's, 7, 40, 61, 138
Hawk migration, 58-62
Hawk watch, 58-62
Heron (*See also* Night-Heron)
Gray, 78
Great Blue, 7, 39, 78, 103, 110, 137
Green, 7, 39, 137-138
Little Blue, 7, 19, 39, 75, 123, 128, 137
Tricolored, 7, 123
Hertzel, Paul
A revision of the IOU Review List, 73-75
Report of the Records Committee for 2023, 121-126
Hester, Dean, On being a young birder, 1-2
_____*See also* Caswell, Brandon and ___
Hitchcock Nature Center, 58-62
Humboldt, 105, 106-115, 116
Hummingbird
Ruby-throated, 6, 34, 45, 133
Rufous, 28, 29, 34, 45, 122

I
Ibis
Glossy, 123, 128, 137
White, 123
White-faced, 39, 138, 146
Ida County, 105, 106-1115, 116
Iowa Bird Life editors, photo of, 67
Iowa City, 105, 106-115, 116
Iowa Ornithologists' Union
Board of Directors meetings, 70-71, 158-160
Business meeting, fall, 156-157
Business meeting, spring, 68-69
Centennial meeting, 64-67
Financial report, 16-17
Presidents, photo of, 67
Projects Committee report, 101
Records Committee report, 121-126
Treasurer's report, 68, 70

J
Jamaica, 104, 106-115, 116
Jay, Blue, 7, 42, 104, 112
Junco, Dark-eyed, 49, 94, 98, 104, 114, 144

K
Keokuk, 102, 103, 104, 106-115, 116
Kestrel, American, 7, 11, 28, 41, 46, 50, 61, 81, 91, 97, 103, 112
Kiff, Lloyd F., see Sealy, Spencer G., and _____

Killdeer, 6, 10, 35, 87, 103, 110, 134
Kingbird
Eastern, 7, 41, 46, 140
Western, 7, 41, 78, 140
Kingfisher, Belted, 7, 46, 90, 103, 111
Kinglet
Golden-crowned, 43, 92, 104 113, 141
Ruby-crowned, 43, 92, 104, 113, 141
Kite
Mississippi, 7, 9, 40, 62, 138
Swallow-tailed, 29, 75, 77, 78
Kittiwake, Black-legged, 87, 105, 116, 123, 128, 136

L
Lamoni, 21-23, 103, 104, 105, 106-115, 116
Langan, Connor Patrick, Field reports—spring 2023, 127-155
Lark, Horned, 8, 91, 97. 104, 113, 141
Limpkin, 6, 9, 28, 35, 82, 86-87, 95, 122, 128, 133
Longspur
Lapland, 49, 93, 104, 114, 144
Smith's, 49, 81, 93, 105, 116, 128, 143
Loon
Common, 7, 38, 88, 103, 136
Pacific, 38
Red-throated, 38, 136
Yellow-billed, 123
Lost Nation, 104, 106-115, 116
Louisa Y, 106-115, 116

M
Mallard, 6, 31, 84, 102, 108, 130
Mallard x America Black Duck, 130
Mallard x Northern Pintail, 130
Martin, Purple, 8, 42, 141-142
Marshall County, 102, 104, 106-115
Mason City, 106-115
Meadowlark
Eastern, 8, 50, 99, 116, 149
Species, 115
Western, 8, 50, 78, 99, 115, 149
Merganser
Common, 6, 33, 85, 103, 109, 131
Hooded, 6, 33, 85, 103, 109, 131
Red-breasted, 6, 33, 85, 103, 109, 131
Merlin, 7, 41, 61, 91, 97, 103 112, 139
Mockingbird, Northern, 8, 44, 92, 104, 116, 142
Monona County, 58-62
Moore, Francis, Field reports—winter 2022-2023, 79-100
Moorhen, Common, *See* Gallinule, Common
Murphy, Kevin, IOU fall meeting, 156-157
Muscatine, 102, 106-115

N
Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, 102, 106-115, 116
Nighthawk, Common, 6, 34, 132
Night-Heron
Black-crowned, 7, 39, 138
Yellow-crowned, 7, 10, 39, 137
Northeast Madison County, 106-115
North Linn, 106-115
Northwest Clayton County, 102, 105, 106-115, 116
Nollen, Carl, Review of: Strassman, Joan E., Slow birding: The and science of enjoying the birds in your own backyard, 14-15
Nuthatch
Red-breasted, 8, 43, 76, 77, 78, 82, 92, 98, 104, 113, 142, 147
White-breasted, 8, 76, 77, 78, 104, 113

O
Obituary of, Dennis Carter, 63
Oldsquaw, *See* Duck, Long-tailed
Omaha, 104, 105, 106-115, 116
Oriole
Baltimore, 8, 50, 78
Bullock's, 125
Orchard, 8, 50, 147, 149
Osprey, 7, 39, 59, 138
Ovenbird, 8, 51, 105, 116, 150
Owl, *See also* Screech-owl
Barn, 7
Barred, 7, 89, 103, 111, 139, 146
Burrowing, 75
Great Gray, 24-26
Great Horned, 7, 78, 89, 103, 111, 139
Long-eared, 40, 81, 89, 96, 103, 111, 139
Northern Saw-whet, 40-41, 81, 89, 103, 111, 139
Short-eared, 40, 81, 89-90, 97, 103, 111, 139
Snowy, 7, 81, 89, 105

P
Partridge, Gray, 6, 28, 33, 81, 86, 103, 116, 131
Parula, Northern, 8, 12, 53, 151
Pelican
American White, 7, 38, 81, 88, 103, 110, 137, 146
Brown, 75
Pewee, *See* Wood-Pewee
Phalarope
Red, 37, 75
Red-necked, 7, 37, 135-136
Wilson's, 7, 37, 135
Pheasant, Ring-necked, 6, 28, 33, 86, 103, 110, 131
Phoebe
Eastern, 7, 42, 91, 105, 116, 140
Say's. 75, 123
Pigeon
Passenger, 73
Rock, 103, 110
Pintail, Northern, 6, 31-32, 71, 84, 102, 109, 130
Pipit, American, 45, 49, 105, 116, 143
Plover, *See also* Golden-Plover
Black-bellied, 6, 35, 133
Piping, 35, 134
Semipalmated, 6, 35, 134
Snowy, 75, 122, 128, 134
Prairie-Chicken, Greater, 6, 131
Princeton, 102, 105-115, 116
Puffin, Atlantic, 78
Pygmy-owl, Ferruginous, 1

Q
Quail, Scaled, 73

R
Rail
Black, 75
King, 28-29, 35, 75, 122
Virginia, 6, 35, 133, 145
Yellow, 35, 128, 133
Rathbun Reservoir, 103, 106-115, 116
Records Committee, *See* Iowa Ornithologists' Union
Redhead, 6, 31, 84-85, 103, 109, 130
Redpoll
Common, 49, 82, 93, 105, 116, 143
Hoary, 77, 78, 124
Red Rock Reservoir, 103, 104, 106-115, 116
Redstart, American, 8, 52, 148
Reis, Larry, In memoriam: Dennis Carter, 63
Review list, 73-75
Roadrunner, Greater, 73
Robin, American, 8, 44, 77, 78, 93, 104, 114, 143
Ruff, 128

S
Sabrewing, Violet, 77, 78
Sac County, 106-115
Sanderling, 6, 36, 134
Sandpiper
Baird's, 7, 36, 134
Buff-breasted, 7, 36, 134-135
Least, 7, 36, 134
Pectoral, 7, 36, 135
Semipalmated, 7, 36, 134
Sharp-tailed, 125
Solitary, 7, 37, 135
Spotted, 7, 37, 135
Stilt, 6, 36, 134
Upland, 6, 10, 35, 134
Western, 36, 128
White-rumped, 7, 36, 134
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied, 7, 41, 90, 104, 112, 139
Sayles, Richard, IOU spring meeting-100th anniversary celebration, 64-67
Saylorville Reservoir, 102, 105, 106-115, 116
Scaup
Greater, 32, 78, 85, 103, 116, 130
Lesser, 6, 32, 78, 85, 103, 109, 131
Scoter
Black, 32, 85, 103, 116, 131
Surf, 32, 85, 103, 131
White-winged, 32, 85, 103, 116, 131
Screech-Owl, Eastern, 7, 25, 89, 96, 103, 111
Sealey, Spencer G., and Lloyd F. Kiff, An unidentified egg set of the Great Gray Owl from Iowa, 24-26
Shoveler, Northern, 6, 31, 84, 102, 129
Shrike
Loggerhead, 7, 11, 42, 82, 91, 104, 116, 141
Northern, 42, 46, 78, 82, 91, 97, 104, 112, 141
Sioux City, 104, 106-115, 116
Siskin, Pine, 7, 49, 82, 93, 105, 114, 143-144
Smew, 73
Snipe, Wilson's, 7, 37, 87, 103, 116, 135, 145
Solitaire, Townsend's, 105, 116, 128, 143
Sora, 6, 35, 132
Species concept, 3-5
Southeast Clayton County, 105, 106-115, 116
Southeast Webster County, 104, 106-115
Sparrow
American Tree, 49, 94, 104, 114, 144
Chipping, 8, 49, 93-94, 105, 144
Clay-colored, 8, 49, 144
Eurasian Tree, 8, 44, 93, 104, 114, 143
Field, 8, 49, 94, 104, 116, 144
Fox, 49, 94, 104, 114, 144
Grasshopper, 8, 12, 49, 144, 147
Harris's, 49, 94, 104, 115, 144-145
Henslow's, 8, 50, 149
House, 104, 114
House x Eurasian Tree Sparrow, 104-105, 116, 143
Lark, 8, 12, 49, 144
LeConte's, 50, 94, 144
Lincoln's, 50, 94, 104, 116, 149
Nelson's, 47, 50, 149
Savannah, 8, 47, 50, 94, 104, 116, 149
Song, 8, 50, 94, 104, 115, 149
Swamp, 8, 50, 94, 104, 115, 147, 149
Vesper, 8, 50, 144
White-crowned, 49, 94, 98, 104, 115, 144
White-throated, 49-50, 94, 104, 115, 149

Spirit Lake, 102
Starling, European, 8, 104, 113
Stilt, Black-necked, 6, 35, 133
Strassman, Joan E., Slow birding, the art and science of enjoying the bird in your own backyard (review of), 14-15
Sumrall, Colin D, see Christopher A. Brochu and _____
Swallow
Bank, 8, 42, 141
Barn, 8, 42, 77, 78, 142
Cliff, 8, 42-43, 141
Northern Rough-winged, 8, 42, 141
Tree, 8, 42, 141
Swan
Mute, 6, 31, 83, 102, 116, 129
Trumpeter, 6, 31, 83, 102, 108, 129, 146
Tundra, 31, 83-84, 102, 108, 129
Swift, Chimney, 6, 34, 133

T
Tanager
Scarlet, 8, 54, 82, 105, 116, 153
Summer, 8, 48. 54, 153
Western, 125, 128, 153
Taylor County, 104, 106-115, 116
Teal
Blue-winged, 6, 31, 82, 84, 105, 129, 145
Blue-winged x Northern Shoveler, 129-130
Cinnamon, 129, 145
Common, 3
Green-winged, 3, 6, 32, 84, 102, 109, 130, 145
Tern
Black, 7, 38, 136-137
Cabot's. 3
Caspian, 7, 38, 136
Common, 7, 38, 137
Forster's, 7, 38, 136
Least, 7, 38, 136
Sandwich, 3
Thrasher, Brown, 8, 11, 44, 92 104, 116, 142
Thrush
Gray-cheeked, 44, 143
Hermit, 44, 93, 104, 113, 143
Swainson's, 8, 44, 143
Varied, 29, 44, 47, 75, 124
Wood, 8, 44, 143
Tit, Rufous-naped, 125
Titmouse, Tufted, 8, 42, 104, 113
Towhee
Eastern, 8, 12, 50, 78, 99, 104, 115, 149
Spotted, 48, 50, 99, 104, 149
Towhee, Spotted x Eastern Towhee, 149
Treasurer's Report, *See* Iowa Ornithologists' Union
Trigger species, 76-78
Turkey, Wild, 6, 33, 86, 103, 109, 131
Turnstone, Ruddy, 6, 36, 45, 134

U
Union County, 106-115
Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge, 106-115, 116

V
Veery, 8, 44, 81, 93, 98, 142
Vireo
Bell's, 7, 42, 141
Blue-headed, 42, 46, 140
Philadelphia, 7, 42, 141
Red-eyed, 7, 42, 46, 141
Warbling, 7, 42, 141
White-eyed, 7, 42, 140-141
Yellow-throated, 7, 42, 140
Vulture
Black, 59, 75, 128, 138
Turkey, 7, 39, 58, 59, 69, 81, 88, 105, 138

W
Warbler
Bay-breasted, 53, 151
Black-and-white, 8, 51-52, 150
Blackburnian, 53, 151
Blackpoll, 8, 53, 152
Black-throated Blue, 53, 149, 152
Black-throated Green, 54, 152
Blue-winged, 8, 51, 150
Canada, 48, 54, 152
Cape May, 52-53, 151-152
Cerulean, 8, 53, 148, 151
Chestnut-sided, 8, 53, 152
Connecticut, 8, 52, 151
Golden-winged, 48, 51, 150, 151
Hooded, 8, 52, 151
Kentucky, 8, 52, 151
Magnolia, 8, 52, 151
Mourning, 52, 151
Nashville, 48, 52, 151
Orange-crowned, 52. 105, 151
Palm, 54, 152
Pine, 54, 152
Prairie, 8, 75, 124, 125, 128, 152
Prothonotary, 8, 52, 148, 150
Tennessee, 52, 150
Townsend's, 29, 54, 124-125
Wilson's, 8, 54, 55, 153
Worm-eating, 8, 150
Yellow, 8, 53, 152
Yellow-rumped, 54, 99, 104, 152-153
Yellow-throated, 8, 54, 153
Waterloo, *See* Cedar Falls,
Waterthrush
Louisiana, 8, 51, 150
Northern, 51, 150
Waxwing
Bohemian, 92
Cedar, 8, 43, 92, 113
Westfield, 106-115
West Mercer County, Illinois, 103, 106-115, 116
Whimbrel, 36, 128
Whip-poor-will, Eastern, 6, 34, 132-133
Whistling-Duck, Black-bellied, 6, 9, 30, 129
American, 6, 31, 84, 102, 108, 130
European, 125
Willet, 7, 37, 135
Woodcock, American, 7, 37, 87, 135
Woodpecker
Downy, 7, 90, 77, 78, 103, 112
Hairy, 7, 90, 104, 112
Pileated, 7, 77, 78, 90-91, 104, 112, 139
Red-bellied, 7, 41, 90, 103, 112
Red-headed, 7, 10, 41, 78, 90, 103, 112, 146
Wood-Pewee, Eastern, 7, 41, 140
Worth County, 106-115
Wren
Bewick's, 8, 43, 124
Carolina, 8, 43, 92, 104, 113
House, 8, 43, 142, 147
Marsh, 8, 43, 142
Rock, 29, 47, 75, 124
Sedge, 8, 11, 43, 47, 142
Winter, 43, 92, 104, 113, 142

Y
Yellowlegs
Greater, 7, 37, 135
Lesser, 7, 37, 135
Yellow River Forest, 102
Yellowthroat, Common, 8, 52, 63, 151

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (renewable yearly)**:**

Fledgling (students) $20 (electronic only), Institutional (domestic) $35, Institutional (foreign) $45, Goldfinch $25 (electronic only), Bluebird $35, Oriole $50, Egret $75, Osprey $100, Bald Eagle $250, and Peregrine Falcon $500+. Membership dues entitle members to receive *Iowa Bird Life* quarterly and to vote and hold office in the Union. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Join, give a gift, or manage your membership on-line at <www.iowabirds.org>. Paper forms for new members and renewals may be mailed to the treasurer. Back issues of *Iowa Bird Life* are available from Membership Coordinator Will Bates, 215 NE 19th Ct., Ankeny, IA 50021 (w_rbates@icloud.com).

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS:

Original manuscripts, notes, letters (indicate if for publication), editorials, and other material relating to birds in Iowa should be sent by e-mail attachment in Microsoft Word to editor at IBL@iowabirds.org. Research manuscripts should include abstract, introduction, study area, methods, results, discussion, and literature cited sections and will be sent for peer review. Accepted manuscripts will be published promptly depending on space available.

PHOTOS AND GRAPHICS:

Submit only original, unsized, and unenhanced photos in your camera's JPEG (*.jpg) format. Photos must be 300 dpi at the size they will be printed (6-1/2" wide by 6-1/2" high for the cover and various smaller sizes inside), so setting your camera to its highest possible resolution is recommended. The photo editor will do any resizing and enhancing required because any previous adjustments to the photos may make them unusable. Members may upload their photos using the upload tool, Upload IBL Photos, after logging in. If you have trouble with internet connectivity preventing using the tool, email to the photo editor at lgdau9@gmail.com. Submit graphs or maps as email attachments to your manuscript to the editor.

Deadlines for submission are: 1 January for the fall season, 1 April for the winter season, 1 July for the spring season, and 1 October for the summer season.

I.O.U. WEB SITE: <www.iowabirds.org>, Ann Johnson, Webmaster

IOWA RBA: John Bissell (john.annabissell@gmail.com)

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT: Deadline for receipt of reports is 15 January. For forms and instructions, contact Christopher J. Caster, 1813 Liberty Lane, Coralville, IA 52241 (cjcaster@q.com).

BIRD SIGHTINGS: Subscribe at <www.iowabirds.org>

ADDRESS CHANGES: Update your online profile at <www.iowabirds.org> or send address and email changes to Membership Coordinator Will Bates, 215 NE 19th Ct., Ankeny, IA (w_rbates@icloud.com).

FRONT COVER PHOTO: Prothonotary Warbler, Ledges Park, *Boone*, 24 May 2023. Photograph by Larry Dau, Boone, IA.

BACK COVER PHOTO: Mississippi Kite, Ottumwa Cemetery, *Wapello*, 24 May 2023. Photograph by Julie Johnston, Packwood, IA.

LAYOUT: Doreen Van Ryswyk, Mitchellville, IA.

PRINTER: Carter Printing Company, Des Moines, IA.

CONTENTS

Report of the Records Committee for 2022
by *Paul Hertzel*.....121

Field Reports—Spring 2023
by *Connor Langan*.....127

IOU Fall Meeting 2023
by *Kevin Murphy*.....156

IOU Board Meeting Fall 2023
by *Katie Byerly*.....158

IOU Membership Meeting Fall 2023
by *Katie Byerly*.....161

Fifty Years Ago in *Iowa Bird Life*
by *James J. Dinsmore*.....163

Index, Volume 93
by *James J. Dinsmore*.....164